



POPLAR SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
est. 1794

The Lord's Day, January 15th, 2023
The Second Sunday After the Epiphany

Rev. Danny Settle, Interim Pastor
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www.poplarspringsws.org

CALL TO WORSHIP

THE STRIKING OF THE HOUR

MEDITATION AND PREPARATION

Prelude

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endures to all generations.”

Minister: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord!

Congregation: **We lift them up!**

HYMN

Praise the Lord, the Almighty
Celebration Hymnal #210

CONFESSION OF SIN

THE LAW OF GOD

Proverbs 6:16-19

“These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that are swift in running to evil, a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren.”

Private Confession

Corporate Confession

Minister: We make this, our corporate confession, unto God:

***All:* Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 55:6-9

"Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; And to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the Lord. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.'"

Minister: Your sins are forgiven through Christ.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

DOXOLOGY

Doxology
Celebration Hymnal #815

CONSECRATION

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

Exodus 15:1-21

Mark 1:1-11

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Minister: May God bless the reading of His Word.

Congregation: **Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN

On Jordan's Stormy Banks
Celebration Hymnal #777

SERMON

The Sifting of a Christian and Church – Part 2
Luke 22:31-34

HYMN

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us
Celebration Hymnal #688

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

Minister: "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen."
(Jude 1:24-25)

Congregation: Amen.

Postlude

In the foyer, a plate is designated for tithes and offerings.

EVENING SERVICE

SERMON

The 2023 Mirror of Our Life
Philippians 3:7-14

The Active Obedience of Christ

By Wayne Grudem

If Christ had only earned forgiveness of sins for us, then we would not merit heaven. Our guilt would have been removed, but we would simply be in the position of Adam and Eve before they had done anything good or bad and before they had passed a time of probation successfully. To be established in righteousness forever and to have their fellowship with God made sure forever, Adam and Eve had to obey God perfectly over a period of time. Then God would have looked on their faithful obedience with pleasure and delight, and they would have lived with him in fellowship forever.

For this reason, Christ had to live a life of perfect obedience to God in order to earn righteousness for us. He had to obey the law for his whole life on our behalf so that the positive merits of his perfect obedience would be counted for us. Sometimes this is called Christ's "active obedience," while his suffering and dying for our sins is called his "passive obedience." Paul says his goal is that he may be found in Christ, "not having a righteousness of [his] own based on law, but that which is through faith in Christ the righteousness from God that depends on faith" (Phil. 3:9). It is not just moral neutrality that Paul knows he needs from Christ (that is, a clean slate with sins forgiven), but a positive moral righteousness. And he knows that that cannot come from himself, but must come through faith in Christ. Similarly, Paul says that Christ has been made "our righteousness" (1 Cor. 1:30). And he quite explicitly says, "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous" (Rom. 5:19).

Some theologians have not taught that Christ needed to achieve a lifelong record of perfect obedience for us. They have simply emphasized that Christ had to die and thereby pay the penalty for our sins. But such a position does not adequately explain why Christ did more than just die for us; he also became our "righteousness" before God. Jesus said to John the Baptist, before he was baptized by him, "It is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness" .

It might be argued that Christ had to live a life of perfect righteousness for his own sake, not for ours, before he could be a sinless sacrifice for us. But Jesus had no need to live a life of perfect obedience for his own sake—he had shared love and fellowship with the Father for all eternity and was in his own character eternally worthy of the Father's good pleasure and delight. He rather had to "fulfill all righteousness" for our sake; that is, for the sake of the people whom he was representing as their head. Unless he had done this for us, we would have no record of obedience by which we would merit God's favor and merit eternal life with him. Moreover, if Jesus had needed only sinlessness and not also a life of perfect obedience, he could have died for us when he was a young child rather than when he was thirty-three years old.

By way of application, we ought to ask ourselves whose lifelong record of obedience we would rather rely on for our standing before God, Christ's or our own? As we think about the life of Christ, we ought to ask ourselves, was it good enough to deserve God's approval? And are we willing to rely on his record of obedience for our eternal destiny?

<https://www.monergism.com/thethreshold/articles/onsite/active.html>

SERVICES

THE LORD'S DAY

Morning Worship 10:00 AM

Evening Worship 7:00 PM

Children's Ministry 7:00 PM

Deacons Meeting 7:45 PM

WEDNESDAY

BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM

LEADERSHIP

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