

THE LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

ELEVEN O’CLOCK

June 10, 2018

We gather today as “the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant ... ” Hebrews 12:23-24a

A Time for Preparation

Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

Mighty God,

I humble myself for faculties misused, opportunities neglected, words ill-advised. I repent of my folly and inconsiderate ways, my broken resolutions, untrue service, my backsliding steps, my vain thoughts. O bury my sins in the ocean of Jesus’ blood and let no evil result from my fretful temper, unseemly behavior, provoking pettiness. If by unkindness I have wounded or hurt another, do thou pour in the balm of heavenly consolation; If I have turned coldly from need, misery, grief, do not in just anger forsake me; If I have withheld relief from penury and pain, do not withhold your gracious bounty from me. If I have shunned those who have offended me, keep open the door of your heart to my need. Fill me with an over-flowing ocean of compassion, the reign of love my motive, the law of love my rule. O God of all grace, make me more thankful, more humble; Inspire me with a deep sense of my unworthiness arising from the depravity of my nature, my omitted duties, my unimproved advantages, your commands violated by me. With all my calls to gratitude and joy may I remember that I have reason for sorrow and humiliation. O give me repentance unto life. Cement my oneness with my blessed Lord, that faith may adhere to him more immovably, that love may entwine itself round him more tightly, that his Spirit may pervade every fiber of my being. Then send me out to make him known to my fellow-men.

(The Valley of Vision Prayer Book)

Ringings of Bell Judah Gosnell

Announcements..... Deacon

A Time for Praise:

Prelude

Call to Worship

Scripture and Prayer Pastor Bruce Ostrom

- *Hymn of Praise* *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* Hymn #90

A Time for Offering:

- *Offertory Hymn* *Glory to His Name*..... Hymn #493

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Tithes and Offerings Ushers

A Time for Hearing God’s Word:

Choral Message..... *O the Blood of Jesus Medley* Arr. Allen

Message Pastor Bruce Ostrom

Pastoral Prayer

A Time for Surrender:

- *Hymn of Response* *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* Hymn #539

- Benediction

Postlude

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Affirmation of Faith – Westminster Larger Catechism

78. Do then the bread and the wine become the real body and blood of Christ?

No, but as the water in Baptism is not changed into the blood of Christ, nor becomes the washing away of sins itself, being only the divine token and assurance thereof; so, also in the Lord’s Supper the sacred bread (Matt 26:29) does not become the body of Christ itself, though agreeably to the nature and usage of sacraments it is called the body of Christ.

79. Why then does Christ call the bread His body, and the cup His blood, or the new testament in His blood, and St. Paul, the communion of the body and the blood of Christ?

Christ speaks thus not without great cause, namely, not only to teach us thereby, that like as the bread and wine sustain this temporal life, so also His crucified body and shed blood are the true meat and drink of our souls unto life eternal;(John 6:51-55) but much more, by this visible sign and pledge to assure us, that we are as really partakers of His true body and blood by the working of the Holy Spirit , as we receive by the mouth of the body these holy tokens in remembrance of Him;(1 Cor 10:16-17) and that all His sufferings and obedience are as certainly our own, as if we ourselves had suffered and done all in our own person.

Opportunities of the Week

Sunday, June 10

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship
8:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting

Monday, June 11

10:00 a.m. Prayer Group 5
6:00 p.m. Prayer Group 6

Tuesday, June 12

5:45 p.m. Prayer Group 9

Wednesday, June 13

7:00 p.m. Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

Nursery this week: Cindy Ostrom
Theresa Engel

Church Watch this month: Jerry Crawford

WHY JOIN A CHURCH?

(Part 3)

(Taken from Spiritual Disciplines Within the Church by Donald S. Whitney)

Perhaps you are persuaded that the churches in the days of the New Testament had membership lists and that people joined the churches instead of "drifting." Are there other Biblical reasons why Christians should be members of a church today? Here are some . . .

BIBLICAL REASONS FOR JOINING A CHURCH

You prove that you're not ashamed to identify with Christ or His people

Jesus said (in Mark 8:38) that if anyone is ashamed to identify himself with Him on earth then He will not identify Himself with that person when he or she stands before God in the Judgment. Joining a church is one of the plainest ways of saying you're not ashamed to identify yourself with Jesus and with His people. Jesus certainly made a formal commitment to identify Himself with His people when He left Heaven to come to earth and die as a man. Can, then, one for whom Christ died be reluctant to identify himself formally with the others for whom Christ died? California pastor John MacArthur explains and asks further, "You have been joined together with Christ. . . You bear His name. Are you ashamed to belong? Are you ashamed to bear that identification with other believers of like precious faith? . . . Shouldn't you be willing outwardly to identify with the visible, gathered members of that group to which you eternally belong?"⁵

When you join a church, you make it clear whose side you're on. You're telling the family of God that you are part of the family too, and that you don't want to be considered on the "outside" (1 Corinthians 5:12-13) any longer.

You stop being an independent Christian and place yourself under the discipline and protection of other Christians

In Matthew 18:15-17, Jesus set up an accountability system. When a professing believer starts living like an unbeliever, those in the church who know about it are to confront him about his sin. First, one is to go to this person, and then, if he will not listen, the one is to bring one or two others along for a second conversation. The goal is to restore him back to full fellowship with the Lord and his fellow believers. If he persistently and unrepentantly refuses to return to the Lord, the final step is to report the matter to the church. Then everyone in the church has the chance to win the person back. And if he continues in his sin, the church is to withdraw fellowship from him as the final means of showing him his need to repent.

If you aren't part of the church, they have no authority over you and cannot do what Jesus said to do. Unless you join the church, your independence places you outside the way Jesus wants things to happen. Incidentally, when Jesus says in verse 17 to bring this matter "to the church," how do you know who should be notified (and who should not be) unless there is a formally recognized membership?

Related to this idea of spiritual authority, recall Hebrews 13:17, the passage we examined which tells us to obey the leaders of the church and submit to them because they keep watch over our souls. The leaders of the church are to "watch over" you by providing spiritual protection for you and caring about your growth in Christ. You place yourself outside that spiritual watchcare unless you join a local church.

You participate in a stronger, more unified effort of God's people to obey Christ's command to reach others

The last thing Jesus said before returning to Heaven is known to Christians today as the Great Commission. It's found in Matthew 28:19-20 where Jesus told His disciples (and us), "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."

I've met a few people who weren't interested in church membership but who were zealously witnessing to others about Christ and trying to make disciples for Him. Since they do so well what relatively few Christians do at all (i.e., share their faith), why emphasize church membership to them? They need to see that joining a church is like putting one candle with many others. They will give off more light collectively than the one lone candle ever could, and together they will have a greater penetration into the world's darkness.

And as your local church reaches across the country and around the world in direct and indirect support of missionary work, you can participate in ways of reaching the world for Christ that you could have never dreamed otherwise.

In contrast, consider the potential negative impact on your efforts to talk about Jesus if you don't join His earthly body. John MacArthur says we should ask ourselves, "How wonderful can Christ be if we're not even committed to being associated with His church?"⁶ How believable is our testimony of the goodness and greatness of Christ if we don't want to identify openly with Christ's family?

You have a greater opportunity to use your spiritual gift "for the profit of all"

At the moment of salvation when the Holy Spirit comes to live within a believer in Christ, He brings a gift with Him. "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit," Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 12:4. He continues in verse 11, "But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills." For what purpose does God gift each Christian? The answer is in verse 7: "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all." God gifts you individually so that you will use your gift "for the profit" of others. You have a greater opportunity to do that when you use your gift in and through local church membership.

Yes, you can use your spiritual gift for the good of God's people without joining a church. But in a lot of churches, many of the ministry opportunities are available for church members only. That's because the church wants to know that you stand with her doctrinally and support her ministry goals before you're asked to minister in certain positions. Besides, remaining outside the membership of the church may say more about your desire to serve than you intend. "Not joining the church," according to MacArthur, "is saying, 'I don't want to serve the only institution Christ ever built.'"⁷ So the best way to maximize the effectiveness of your spiritual gift is to use it "for the profit of all" in a local church as a member.

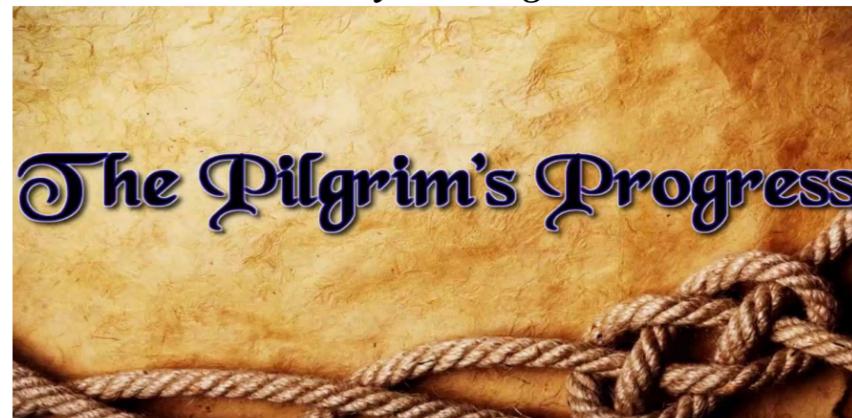
(To Be Continued)

We thank you for worshipping with us today. We trust that your heart has been encouraged, your spirit filled, and that you will leave here equipped for the work to which God has called you. If you would like to find out more information about Poplar Springs Baptist Church, please visit our website: www.poplarspringsws.org or call (864) 861-2196.

Sunday Evening Service



Wednesday Evening Service



Church Contact Information:

Church/Fellowship Building: (864) 861-2190

Office/Parsonage: (864) 861-2196

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 124, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Church Office: 6466 Poplar Springs Road, Ware Shoals, SC 29692

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 8-4

Email: balentine@poplarspringsws.org

Pastor: Pastor Bruce Ostrom
wostrom1@aim.com

Youth Pastor: Travis Gosnell

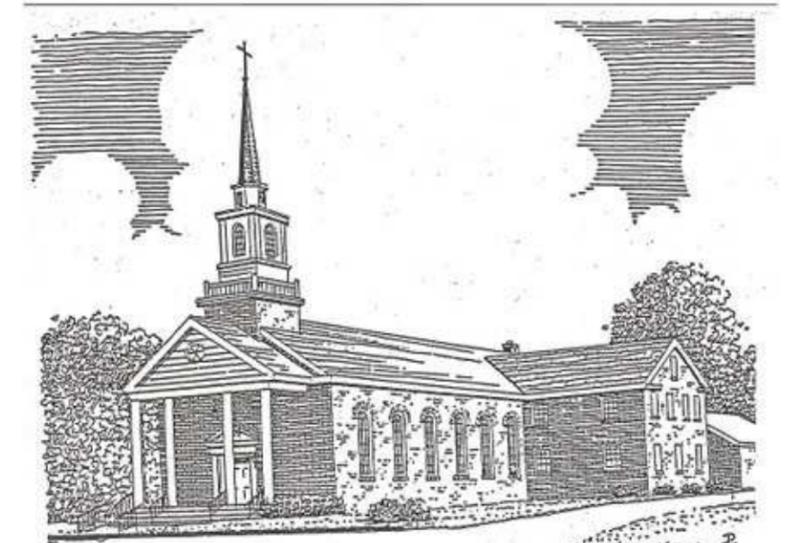
Music Leader: Deck Balentine

Pianist: Jean Powell

Website: www.poplarspringsws.org

Poplar Springs

Baptist Church



Poplar Springs Baptist Church

Ware Shoals, S.C.

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

Matthew 28:18-20

THE LORD'S DAY, JUNE 10, 2018

6000 Poplar Springs Road

Ware Shoals, SC 29692

(864) 861-2196

www.poplarspringsws.org

Pastor W. Bruce Ostrom

Sunday School: 10:00 am

Worship: 11:00 am

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today by the Ostrom family in loving memory of their daughter, Sarah Ann's thirteenth birthday, June 12th.

