



Westworth Church of Christ

*Worshiping
Serving
Fellowshipping*

WELCOME VISITORS!
Thank you for joining us today to worship the Lord.

If this is your first visit here, please honor us by filling out a visitor's card found on the back of each pew. Your prayer requests may also be made on the flip side of the card. At the close of service you can hand it to any member, place it in the contribution box at the front of the auditorium or simply leave it in the pew and we will collect it.

During the service we will celebrate communion. (Sacraments are available on the table in the entry foyer.) This is a time that we partake of unleavened bread and juice from the fruit of the vine to remind us what Jesus has done for us. Communion is not only about Jesus' death, but his resurrection and triumph over death and sin. His resurrection is the source of our hope that God will fulfill his promise of eternal life through Jesus the Christ.

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| Address: | 5728 White Settlement Road Westworth Village, TX 76114 |
| Office Phone: | 817-738-7536 |
| Worship Services: | Sunday 10:00 am |
| Bible Study: | Wednesday 7:00 pm |
| Men's Group: | 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:00 pm |
| Website: | www.westworthcoc.org |
| Email: | Westworthchurch@sbcglobal.net |
| Facebook Group: | Westworth Church of Christ |
| Trustees: | Curtis Dunson, Brian Flaherty, Eric Kreger, Curtis Thompson |

THE 7 LAST DAYS OF JESUS' LIFE

Day 5 in the series

Wednesday

In 1983, a Wellington, Texas deacon convinced me that I should run in a 10 K race with him. The race was in three weeks. I was thirty-three and had in the past done some long distance running so I figured why not. After all, how hard could it be? It would only be a little over six and a half miles. I went out to a little used country road, measured off the one-mile mark, the two-mile mark, and finally the three-mile mark. My goal was to eventually be able to run to the three mile marker then return. The next day I only ran one mile because I was no fool. I realized you didn't just go out and run six miles. Well, one mile was easy, cheesy. On day two I ran two miles. I wisely decided to work up to the distance slowly. I didn't want to stress myself so I ran two miles again on day three. But things interrupted my schedule as they always did and I found that I wouldn't be ready in three weeks unless I increased the schedule. So, on the first day of week number two I decided to go for it. Yep, six and a half miles. I won't mention my time, but I made it back to the car alive. I drove home and went to bed. Hettie brought me dinner which I refused. It hurt to get up. It hurt to lay down. It hurt to breath.

Yep, I thought I was going to die. I had run on Monday and it was Wednesday before I could get out of bed. My muscles ached for two weeks. I missed the 10 K race.

I don't know if Jesus was tired on Wednesday after Tuesday's confrontations with the religious leaders in Jerusalem, but he had every right to feel that way. He had bested the foremost religious thinkers of his day and certainly deserved a day of rest.

The scripture doesn't give a clue about his activities on Wednesday, but I believe he was busy. I am sure that his disciples sought clarification on his comments about the tribulation and the second coming. But the issue that really needed clarification was his statement that in two days he would be crucified. His disciples believed he was the Messiah. He was greeted as the Messiah by the crowds on Sunday. The disciples had learned as children that the Messiah would be king. They were taught that the Messiah would establish

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an eternal kingdom. Therefore, the Messiah couldn't die. Yet, Jesus said he would be crucified. This was a contradiction. The disciples needed time to digest this.

The other high priority for Jesus was meditation. In thirty-six hours Jesus would institute the Lord's Supper during the Passover Feast and in about forty-eight hours he would be on the cross. He needed some alone time with his Father.

While there seemed to be little physical exertion on Wednesday, there were monumental spiritual forces on the move. On the one hand, Jesus was communing with his Father to strengthen his spiritual and physical fortitude for the coming trial and crucifixion. On the other, Judas was meeting with chief priests to discuss the arrest of Jesus.

Did you ever wonder why Judas would betray Jesus? This question has perplexed me for most of my life. Was it greed? Why would Judas turn in the most wanted man in Palestine for 30 pieces of silver, the price the owner of a bull was required to pay the owner of a slave, if his bull killed the slave (Exodus 21:32). It doesn't make sense. He could have asked for much more. I like what one commentator wrote, "Judas could have been moved by any one of a number of motives or a combination of several." So, let's examine some other possibilities.

It has been noted that Judas was the only apostle who was not from Galilee. He was from Kerioth, a town about thirty-five miles south of Jerusalem. But coming from a different region shouldn't create enough animosity to succumb to betrayal.

Perhaps it was disappointment and anger because Jesus was not the Messiah Judas expected or wanted. When Jesus entered Jerusalem on Sunday the crowds shouted, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Mark's account tells us the crowds rejoiced at "the coming kingdom of our father David," and Luke records that they referred to Jesus as the "King". So, if Judas was looking towards the prospect of being the treasurer of an earthly kingdom without boundaries, he was greatly disappointed when Jesus didn't even attempt to claim the title "King." And, on Tuesday when Jesus predicted his crucifixion on Friday all of Judas' hopes and dreams died. How utterly crushed he must have been.

If you are a driven individual, what do you do when your plans to be

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successful and influential fail? You find another way. Perhaps, in Judas’ mind he was simply abandoning a failing cause. If Jesus was not the path to success and influence for Judas then maybe he would find success and influence in the Sanhedrin by betraying Jesus.

Some have suggested that Judas’ betrayal was his attempt to force Jesus to miraculously call down God’s angels to destroy Rome and assume the throne of an earthly kingdom. If so, it didn’t work.

When you sift all the possible reasons for the betrayal through the sieve of logic and truth you are faced with the basest reason of all. The same one that exiled Adam and Eve from the garden. It is the same one that builds barricades between God and us. Selfishness.

Tomorrow, Thursday, the world would begin to change. Thursday evening would be Friday in Palestine, and the Jewish people would celebrate the Passover.

David Keller

EVENTS

Ladies Day — Saturday, March 25, 2023 — 10:00am—2:00 pm

Azle Church of Christ, 336 Northwest Parkway, Azle, Texas 76020

A copy of the invitation from Azle Church of Christ is in every mail box.

“Glimpses of Glory—Learning To See God In My Mirror”.

A Ladies program by Mary Hollingsworth, author and international speaker.

A salad lunch will be provided. If you signed up to attend this event, please be sure to put it in your calendar and we’ll see you there.

Beautiful Feet Ministry

Service Day—Saturday, April 15, 2023 - 7:30 am—noon

Everyone is encouraged to take part in this opportunity to serve. There will be a variety of ‘jobs’ for everyone, so even youngsters can participate. Please check your schedules and take this opportunity to be of service. It will be a benefit to your hearts and minds—as well as your soul.

A sign up sheet can be found in the either foyer for those who plan to join the service project at Beautiful Feet ministry in Ft. Worth.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

Tuesday - Westworth Men's Group



All men of the congregation, friends, neighbors and family are invited to join the men's group on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Currently they are looking at concepts and ideas in the book:

IN A PIT WITH A LION ON A SNOWY DAY by Mark Batterson

Next Meeting: March 21, 2023, 7pm -Activity Bldg.

It is never too late to join the study and fellowship offered here.

Wednesday Night Bible Study—

Each week @ 7pm—Activity Bldg.

Current study: 1 & 2 Samuel



This is a great opportunity to learn more from God's word and enjoy casual fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thursdays Women's Virtual Bible Study



All ladies are welcomed to join this group at any time. A great deal of learning and fellowship occurs from the comfort of your own home.

Each week on Thursday — 7:00 pm via Google meet

For information regarding access - web-site and passcode contact:

Tracy Robertson at 817-308-0554— or—snowgirlntx@yahoo.com

Current Study: Encountering God—*Cultivating Habits of Faith through the Spiritual Disciplines* by Kelly Minter

The current study will be completed soon. Be watching for the next study, and plan to join the group. This is a great time of fellowship as well as an opportunity to grow in love for one another and for the word of God.

Joy

Everyone here at Westworth Church of Christ is joyfully anticipating the arrival of Max and Juanita Pratt in April.

Max is scheduled to begin his position as our full-time minister/preacher on April 2, 2023, and we want to make sure they are welcomed according to our best traditions.

We plan an “Official” welcome April 30, 2023 (5th Sunday Lunch).

After that brief time to get “settled in”, let’s have a special fellowship meal. We encourage you to bring cards of welcome, appreciation and love for our “new” minister and family. Invitations will be sent to sister congregations in the area who might like to join us, so please plan your food preparations accordingly. If there is a particular congregation you want to receive an invitation, please let Sherry know.

If you know of someone you feel would like to join in this celebration, please be sure to invite them—as well as to any service at any time, of course.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

On Monday, March 20, 2023 (TOMORROW) at 9:30 am



Blair Montgomery and Sarah Lisle have plans to do some cleaning in the house Max and Juanita will occupy—across the street on Koldin (most everyone knows which house).

Sarah and Blair are looking for/welcoming anyone who would like to volunteer to participate in this act of service/kindness.

You can bring a broom /mop / bucket “just in case” it is needed. Other supplies are provided.



If you can help with this, please just ‘show-up’ in your work clothes ready to join this effort, or if you prefer to coordinate with Sarah, just give her a call at 843-412-3894.

Happy Milestones

March Birthdays

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|-----------------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| Pat Straw | Mar 2 | Kate Thompson | Mar 9 |
| Richard Hromek | Mar 3 | Abby Kreger | Mar 9 |
| Ben Jewell | Mar 3 | Sarah Thompson | Mar 12 |
| Lanette Lisle | Mar 5 | Debbie Highfill | Mar 21 |
| Jaquelyn Snell | Mar 7 | Mike Lisle | Mar 23 |
| Cooper Thompson | Mar 8 | Ernie Brawley | Mar 29 |
| Annie Thompson | Mar 9 | | |

March Anniversaries



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|----------------------|--------|
| Mike & Lanette Lisle | Mar 15 |
| Max & Sarah Lisle | Mar 21 |

Today—3rd Sunday Lunch

Always good fellowship and delicious food. Please stay and enjoy this brief but uplifting time with brothers and sisters.



April will be busy...

April 2—Max Pratt joins us as full time minister - we will celebrate “officially” on 4/30 (*a change from what was reported here last week*)

April 9—Easter

April 15—Our service project at **Beautiful Feet** from 7:30 am to noon.

April 16—3rd Sunday Lunch

Apr 30—5th Sunday Lunch—We’ll use this occasion to “Officially” welcome Max and Juanita with a fellowship lunch.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Trustee in charge for March: Curtis Dunson

| Date | Today—March 19 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Open | Curtis Dunson |
| Usher | Brian Flaherty |
| Songs/Close | Eric Kreger |
| Prayer | Johnny Box |
| Communion | David Keller |
| Bible Story Kids Church | Curtis Dunson / Sherri Dunson & |
| Reading | James Kreger |
| Lesson | Bob Mullen |
| A/V | Susan Flaherty |

COMING WEEKS

| Date | March 26 | April 2 | April 9 |
|----------------------------|--|---------|---------|
| Open | Curtis Thompson | | |
| Usher | Bill Jones | | |
| Songs/Close | Curtis Dunson | | |
| Prayer | Sharold Ferris | | |
| Communion | Tom Reynolds | | |
| Bible Story Kids Church | Mike Lisle / David & Hettie Keller | | |
| Reading | Jonathan Dunson | | |
| Lesson | Kent Benfer | | |
| A/V | Randy Fetters | | |

Communion Preparation March: Wanda Reynolds