

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Frank Thompson

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Tyler Christian

Assisting: Jacob Clark
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Cameron Christian

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Evaporated Milk

Sermon Notes

Getting Deeper With God

1.

11.

111.

December 31, 2023

Volume 43 Issue 13

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

The
Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

Fear Not!

Many people make the tragic mistake of placing their trust in this world and worldly things. The apostle John warned, *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever”* (I John 2:15-17).

The apostle Peter affirms that *“the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up”* (II Peter 3:10). One who places his trust in this world and worldly things has every reason to be afraid!

God’s people, however, have no reason to be afraid as we live the Christian life. Those who choose trust in God by obeying the Gospel and continuing to “walk in the light” (I John 1:7) have no need for a fearful spirit. Let us take heart as we reflect on several eternal principles taught by the prophet Isaiah.

God’s people need not fear, because they have been redeemed. Isaiah wrote, *“But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine”* (Isa. 43:1). Two tremendous truths are filled with comfort in this passage. First, God has redeemed us. Man’s sins separated him from God (Isa. 59:1-2). But the death of the Savior made redemption possible. Paul, speaking of Christ, says, *“in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace”* (Eph. 1:7). Christians do not need to fear things such as death nor the future like the world does because they have been redeemed! Second, God has called us. Because of God’s love and grace, the Gospel is available for all. The apostle Paul makes it abundantly clear that all who are called of God are called *“by the gospel”* (II Thess. 2:14). The gospel that can save (Rom. 1:16)!

God’s people need not fear, because God has promised to be with them.

Isaiah stated, “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee” (Isa. 43:2). The fellowship available to the child of God is a wonderful thing. The early Christians “continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42). The apostle John encouraged the saints by writing,

“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (I John 1:6-7). The writer of Hebrews assures us that Christ “will in no wise fail or forsake us” (Heb. 13:5).

Paul assured us that nothing could come between us and God’s love (Rom. 8:38,39). Jesus Himself offered consolation of His presence when He promised to be with us till the end of the world (Mat. 28:20).

God’s people need not fear, because they have been created for the glory of God (Isa. 43:7). God does not expect the impossible or give us tasks we cannot accomplish. Man has a purpose as he lives life on this earth and it is a glorious one. He is to live his life in such a way that God will be glorified! Those who live their lives on purpose - His purpose - have nothing to fear.

A Christian should never forget the tremendous promises and words of comfort and encouragement written by the apostle Paul to the church in Rome.

“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:31-39).

God’s people need not fear as no one can keep us from obtaining victory in Jesus!

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance week of 12/24/23
B.C.: 17 A.M.: Worship: 40 Wed.: 33

Family News and Notes

Margaret Langston is in Carolina Inn. **Paula Perrin** is continuing her chemotherapy. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad continues to battle his health issues. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** father is doing a little better. **Chuck Perkins** is having some health challenges right now. **John Williams** is having trouble with inflammation in his neck. Wade Hedgepeth’s two brothers, **Mark & Dwight**, have some health challenges. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo for her cancer. **Linda Hernandez** is shut in at home. Her husband, **Tony**, had a heart attack but is back at homes.

Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment’s notice. Remember to pray for their families as well. We have 6 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Sandra Hedgepeth**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Dec 31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4	Jan 5	Jan 6
Rev 20-22	Gen 1-4	Gen 5-8	Gen 9-12	Gen 13-16	Gen 17-21	Gen 22-24

Events

LBC: Holiday break Dec. 19 - Jan 2. Return January 9th.
New Years’ Eve: following morning worship. Fellowship meal, games & singing.
Mens’ Lunch: This Friday at Golden Corral @ 11am.

