

Good News From Chardon

Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.
Chardon, OH 44024
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April 2, 2023
Issue 14

The Greatest Gift

William Sydney Porter, better known as the short story author O. Henry, said, "The magi, as you know, were wise men – wonderfully wise men who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents." Although I enjoy the stories with their clever plot twists from the pen of O. Henry, in this instance I disagree with the conclusion of Mr. Porter. It wasn't the wise men who invented the giving of "Christmas" presents, it was God Himself. He did so when He gave us His only begotten Son. This was the best "Christmas" gift ever. The wise men merely continued the tradition.

In Jesus, this supreme offering from the Father, we see the glory of God on display. But what is that glory? Did it come with a lot of pomp and circumstance, as Paul saw demonstrated as he declared his defense and the gospel of Jesus Christ before King Agrippa, Bernice and Festus? Did it come with fanfare? No. God's glory is demonstrated through His humility. In Jesus Christ we see Someone Who was willing to put aside all the trappings of what it means to be God, the Creator of the universe, in order to reach out to us. And it's this humility that makes the conception, birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ such glorious events indeed. As Paul wrote so eloquently summing up the life and purpose of Jesus Christ, "Christ Jesus: Who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the Cross" (Philippians 2:5-8). In Jesus Christ we see God coming to Earth and being born in a lowly manger. The God of Heaven, even through the lowly birth He chose, demonstrated how He intended to live a life of service. As Jesus later would declare, "Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

In Jesus, God showed up as one of us. Even one of His names, Immanuel, means "God With Us". The One Who made it all, the One Who holds it all together, the One Whom we call the Creator showed up humbly, served His entire life meekly, and gave His life freely, and all that you and I might lay claim to eternal life through His shed blood. There is something amazing about being created in the image of God, being created to be in a relationship with God, and to be someone that God finds value. You do have great worth, indeed, for God saw fit to give you His one and only begotten Son! Never forget that.

David R. Ferguson preaches for the Mentor Church of Christ in Mentor, OH.

Schedule of Services

Greeting: Mark
Song Leader: Mark
Opening Hymn:
6—We Shall See The King Some Day
Opening Prayer: Dale
Hymn:
278—Tell Me The Story Of Jesus
Scripture Reading: Ryan
Philippians 2:5-11
Hymn:
295—In Remembrance
Lord's Supper: Robert
Hymn:
127—He Hideth My Soul
Sermon: Mark
Invitation Hymn:
601—Jesus Is Calling, Calling, Calling
Closing Hymn:
399—Sweet By And By
Closing Prayer: Ray

ATTENTION
THE GOSPEL MEETING ON
MAY 21-25 HAS BEEN POSTPONED
Please pray for our speaker
Mark Lance who will be undergoing
back surgery

CALENDAR

Apr. 2—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark. Business meeting
Apr. 4—Ladies Bible Study at Nina's
Apr. 5—(b) Ken
Apr. 5—(a) Richard & Rosemary
Apr. 9—Bible study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark
Apr. 14—(b) Sara
Apr. 14—(a) Brendan & Lisa
Apr. 16—(b) Eric
Apr. 16—Bible study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom
Apr. 23—Bible study 10 am. Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark

SUNDAY: Bible Study—10:00 am, Worship—11:00 am

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Audio Service: 312-626-6799 Zoom I.D.: 81430241090 Password: 444015

The Humbled and Exalted Christ

Philippians 2:5-11

WORD LIST

ABOVE	BONDSERVANT	CHRIS
COMFORT	COMING	CONFESS
CROSS	DEATH	EARTH
EQUAL	EVERY	EXALTED
FATHER	FORM	GLORY
GOD	HEAVEN	HUMBLED
JESUS	KNEE	LIKENESS-
LORD	LOVE	MERCY
MIND	NAME	OBEDIENT
SPIRIT	TONGUE	UNDER

L E D G H C A P M S U S E J D
 S A U E H U E G I E U V S T O
 H T U R T V M H N N O T S R G
 Y E I Q O L N B D L N F E O Q
 T S A B E C A E L A J A F F C
 T D A V O D R X V E T T N M O
 G I V M E F F R E A D H O O B
 A L I K E N E S S R A E C C E
 B N O L A S N P D T M R O F D
 G I O R D K I E D H L O R D I
 Y Q U N Y R A W M M E R C Y E
 W L O R I T Z F S R M S B B N
 G B E T H Y F Z H K A I J M T
 X V S S O R C E U G N O T G V
 E Q H J O K N E E I L R S T Q

PRAYER LIST

- **Mynda's** sister-in-laws Father's health. Her friend **Kim's** brain surgery recovery is going well
- **Mark** and **Debbie** as they travel
- **Roberta**, doing Bible study with Tom, stroke recovery
- **Bonnie's** daughters: **Renee's** hand surgery recovery & grandson **Devin** study
- **Wanda's** migraines; son **Allen**, sisters **Lorraine & Joyce**
- **Mary** and her family. **Carl's** gout and hip recovery, **Kathy**, severe feet issues, medical procedure and pain, her sister and friends. Kathy is in the hospital recovering from her leg surgery. Please send cards.
- **Linda's** health. Her friend Tina's health & family
- **Zarna** and her family
- **Juanita**, fell last week and broke her leg, her sister **Betty** and the rest of her family.
- **Ray** and **Barbara** and their family.
- **Dale's** health issues, headaches and his family. His **Mother's** medical treatments. His friend **Riley** (age 6) with cancer. Brother in Christ **Darrell's** surgery. His **Aunt Rosie's** heart and lungs. Cousin with heart issues. 7 year old girl, **Lucie**, with leukemia.
- **Ray** and his family. **Rebecca's** right knee injuries
- **Pat** and her family
- **Jessie**, Doug's friend, health
- **Sara's** father, **Jeff's** surgery and successful recovery

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross. ⁹Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

When God is the answer, there can be no question.

