



Central Presbyterian Church

Where Christ is Central to All we Do!

October 27, 2021

Our Covid Commission, in response to local Covid data, has decided that **MASKING is PREFERRED at all church services and events.**

*Responses to messages left at the church office will be delayed;
please email when possible.*

office@cpcwaco.org; pastorjudith@cpcwaco.org; drodgers@cpcwaco.org

Invitation to Upreach

Reach up to God through worship and study.

CPCWaco Hybrid Worship

You Are Invited to Praise and Follow Jesus!

Meet , Greet, and Worship via [Zoom](#) (click to join anytime 9:10-11:45am);
worship live (at 10:45am, or anytime convenient for you) on [Facebook](#);
or come in-person (masked) to worship in the Sanctuary.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS
OPENING PRAYER
PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

What does the Lord require of us?

To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

Jesus says to us, "Come and See!"

What is there to see?

Jesus has so much to show us about God's love and care.

Where are we going?

We are following Jesus Christ, learning to know and show God's love.

Lord, help us each to know and grow in your love and care. Amen.

HYMN # 11, vv. 1-2 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN*

***O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome Your aright?
Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,***

To do in spirit lowly All that may please You best.

**Love caused Your incarnation, Love brought You down to me;
Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, Thad led You to embrace
In love all loves excelling Our lost and fallen race.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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 and mind and strength;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

(time for personal silent prayers)

**In your mercy, forgive what se have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS and PASSING OF THE PEACE

RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE (from #372 Lord I Want to Be a Christian)

**Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURES Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (OT p. 163)

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES Matthew 22:34-40

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING Mark 12:28-34 (NT p. 49)

SERMON The Hermeneutic of Love

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY *A Mighty Fortress*

Roger C. Wilson

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN #386 O for a World AZMON

**O for a world where everyone Respects each other's ways,
Where LOVE is lived and all is done With justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared And misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, Equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family And struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity And gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: Outcasts belong, Who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of Peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, And all but LOVE will cease.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Adult Sunday School

Learning what it means to accept Christ's invitation.

9:45 Adult Class (using *Follow Me* Curriculum) on [Zoom](#) (click to join Sunday mornings);

9:45 Men's Class (using *Follow Me* Curriculum) meets in the church parlor (**in-person**).

Adult Reflection Guides are available for the above classes. Please let us know if you would like one so that we order enough for the next cycle!

Invitation to Outreach

Reach out to serve Christ in our community and beyond.



sign up.

Mission Partnership News!!

The Mission Waco Toy Store will be held in the AC on Thursday, 12/2, through Saturday, 12/4.

There will be lots of volunteer groups on site over the next few weeks to get everything organized and ready. If you would like to volunteer before, during, or after the Toy Store Weekend, please email cws7941@aol.com to find out the needs and

Of course, we will also organize our own youth shopping day with the Change for Change collection, and collect both wrapping paper, and unwrapped toys for the Biker Run. This year Santa and the bikers will both stop by to pick up our offerings, and end up here for lunch and unloading/sorting of toys collected all over town. Sunday 11/28 will be a big day!

Movie Night is this Friday!

Bring a friend or two or six for a Halloween movie night!

The showing will be outside by the Activity Center.
Popcorn and treats will be served.

*Bring your blankets to sit on or snuggle in
and join the fun!!*



SUPPORT our TEAM

Sunday, November 14th, CPCWaco will participate in the **2021 CROP Hunger Walk**

benefitting Church World Service and Caritas.

You can sign up to join the team [here](#).

We will walk beginning at 3pm in Bledsoe Miller Park.

Contact [Denyse](#) for more information!

Don't forget to support our team members!!! Click [here](#) to donate!
(You can donate to the CPC team, or scroll down to donate to individual team members.)

Invitation to Inreach

Reach inward with the Spirit of Love, for God, self, and one another.

Drive-Thru Fellowship Dinner--Next Wednesday 11/3

Chicken Pot Pie, Salad and Dessert will be served. Take out or delivery only.

Pick up will be at 5:30pm instead of 6.

Please place your orders by contacting Melissa Rhoden ([email](#) or 254-722-2678).

Interested in Kitchen/Fellowship Events?

If you like fellowship, are handy in the kitchen, or would like to help serve our congregation, please join our group by contacting Melissa Rhoden ([email](#) or 254-722-2678).

Prayer Concerns

- for people caught in times of war or famine;
 - for all who sorrow, and for those who rejoice;
 - for those in need of healing, and for those called to heal;
 - for people called to bear the Good News in word or deed;
 - for Luna (10 year old fighting Cancer), Martha, Joyce, Sara, Billie Kathryn and Ken (both recovering from heart valve replacement surgery), Mrs. Rodgers in Arkansas, Sara, Haley, Andrew S, and all who need healing, strength, & comfort;
 - for guidance, strength, open-mindedness and kindness;
 - for our congregation to sense God's presence, strength, and Call to serve; and
 - for everyone born, a place at the table!
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Celebrating Birthdays

Patricia Tolbert - October 27

Charlie Tolbert - October 30

Pat Wall - November 4

Bill Clifton - November 6

Vik Deivanayagam - November 6

Billie Kathryn Kuhnle - November 13

Witten Williams - November 22

(We are missing many birthdays in our database; please let us know yours!

We need the year to enter the date in the database, but will never print it!)



Pastor's Ponderings

"What is all of this Follow Jesus stuff about? We are Christians already!" someone said to me by text message yesterday. My response was that following Jesus means living a life of love and reconciliation. In our world today where there is so much hate and hostility (much of it rooting in what people think is Christianity), that we thought that a study of the basic practices of Following Jesus would be a worthy endeavor.

Jesus was sent to show how and why God loves the world, and what it looks like to have our lives rooted in what Jesus said were the Greatest Commandments--to love God and others. Being a Christian is not all about praising Jesus, or being a Jesus Freak (though neither of these is a bad thing); being a Christian is about following the rabbi who taught his disciples to protect the weak and vulnerable, to lift up the oppressed, to free the captives, to heal the sick, and to love what God loves.

Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 8 that "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up," and in Ephesians 4 that "God wants us to grow up, to know the whole truth and tell it in LOVE--like Christ in everything. We take our lead from Christ, who is the source of everything we do. Christ keeps us in step with each other. His very breath and blood flow through us, nourishing us so that we will grow up healthy in God, robust in LOVE." This means that we must continually reorient ourselves, our thinking, our living, our loving, to be more like Christ.

Following Jesus is not a one and done kind of vaccine that prevents us from suffering for our sin, nor is it a one way ticket to heaven, it is a lived practice that produces individual, corporate, and even world-wide growth as we seek to do God's will on earth. Following Jesus is a practice that leads us to love others. It is also a practice that can be shared in such a way that others might be curious enough to join this journey.

I hope that as we learn and relearn these Christian practices (following Jesus, welcoming others, having hope, etc), we will find ourselves more and more useful to our loving God who asks only that we keep Christ Central in All We Do.

I am grateful for the question that led me to remember just who I work for (God) and why it is I do what I do (my Calling)! I hope that your memory has also been jogged, and your heart warmed.

God loves you, and so do I!
Judith