

This Week at Glade

(April 22-28, 2024)



Visit the Glade Church website at gladeucc.org

Word for the Week

Posterity



Psalm 22:25-31 (CEB)

- ²⁵ I offer praise in the great congregation
because of you;
I will fulfill my promises
in the presence of those who honor God.
- ²⁶ Let all those who are suffering eat and be full!
Let all who seek the Lord praise him!
I pray your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ Every part of the earth
will remember and come back to the Lord;
every family among all the nations will worship you.
- ²⁸ Because the right to rule belongs to the Lord,
he rules all nations.
- ²⁹ Indeed, all the earth's powerful
will worship him;^[a]
all who are descending to the dust
will kneel before him;
my being also lives for him.^[b]
- ³⁰ Future descendants will serve him;
generations to come will be told about my Lord.
- ³¹ They will proclaim God's righteousness
to those not yet born,
telling them what God has done.

Kelly's Thoughts

“Let all those who are suffering eat and be full!” Just as there is nowhere we can go to flee from God’s presence, there is also no condition so painful or filled with anguish that Jesus cannot inhabit it. Just as the Christ inhabits the praise of God’s people, so he comes to live with us in our most dreadful circumstances. From the people of the nations of the Middle East who know hunger and terror on a daily basis, to those facing genocide in Rwanda, to first world countries where there is economic slavery of the poor who work for wages that are completely unrelated to the cost of living, and are blamed for their poverty and despised as a marginally human class, to the people of color who are blamed for being born of a different race – Jesus goes through our humiliation with us, just as he suffered his own on the cross.

And yet, he comes from the God of light and truth. God knows the godly, their location, even in the grave. God sees them no matter what the consequences are of their trust in God that has put them through great trials. God will hear them whenever and from wherever the call comes. What God is working has a weight of glory that cannot be comprehended, but one that spurs Their believers to move on behalf of the oppressed, to defend the defenseless. When we scream at God to understand why children are starving, God is asking us why we are allowing it. In serving God, we and our posterity serve one another, bringing the kingdom of heaven to pass and singing of God’s righteousness.

Kelly Bryant

Office Hours: Please contact Pastor Kelly at 540-521-9993 or bryantkj@gmail.com if you need them this week. They will be out of town for Seminary commencement from Friday, 4/26 – Monday, 4/29.

OTHER WORDS

Adapted from:

For Such a Time as This

by Wayne Watson

For such a time as this
I was placed upon the earth
To hear the voice of God
And do Their will, whatever it is
For such a time as this
For now and all the days They give
I am here, I am here
And I am Theirs
For such a time as this

For this song, with lyrics, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmYOQ8h4wsM>

Lectionary Readings:

Psalm 22:25-31. Acts 8:26-40. 1 John 4:7-21. John 15:1-8.

Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday Morning

Attend in-person at 1600 Glade Rd. Blacksburg, or on Zoom at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914981619?pwd=Q3E4Rk95d2llZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdz09/#_success

Kelly will be in Minnesota at her graduation receiving the MDiv degree from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. United is an ecumenical seminary traditionally related to the United Church of Christ.

In her absence, Edd Sewell will be speaking on Acts 8:26-40.

Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God.

1 John 4:7

The Nursery NEEDS Volunteers

The nursery is set up so whoever works there can view/listen to the worship service. Thus, you can volunteer and still be in “virtual attendance” at worship! If four people volunteer, it would mean one Sunday each month for each volunteer.

Please consider **signing up for the nursery program**: <https://signup.com/go/ivEyNZK>

Signup to Provide Snacks for After Worship Fellowship

There is a **signup sheet outside the sanctuary** to sign up to bring a small snack for the fellowship time following worship each Sunday. It can be cookies, fruit, or other small items. Remember, however, that the first Sunday of each month is “Birthday Celebration” when small cakes are welcome.

Opportunities for this Week

Coffee & Devotion Group Meets on Zoom Wednesday, April 24 at 10:00 am

This virtual get-together meets at 10 a.m. on Zoom and lasts for about an hour for a time to meet people, share thoughts, hear a brief devotion, and join in prayer.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240288592?pwd=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUrkPaUNqUTog>

There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because God first loved us. ¹ John 4:18-19

Radical Conversations Meets Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 am

Radical Conversations meets from 11:00-12:15 each Saturday morning at the church. This is a time for open discussion of a wide range of topics. Everyone is invited to suggest topics as well as lead in the discussion of a topic that can be studying a book in the Bible, a religious topic, or we often discuss topics that are “secular” with “religious” significance.

Everyone is welcome to this informal discussion and fellowship group — many who attend do not attend Glade and we enjoy a wide variety of opinions in our discussions each week.

Laundry Love washes clothes on Thursday, April 24 from 2:00—4:00 p.m.

Laundry Love has opportunities to volunteer.
This is a great way to put “Words” into “Actions” of faith and love.

VOLUNTEER FOR LAUNDRY LOVE

What are the Origins of the United Church of Christ?

The **United Church of Christ (UCC)** is a socially liberal mainline Protestant Christian denomination based in the United States, with historical and confessional roots in the Congregational, Reformed, and Lutheran traditions. The UCC is a historical continuation of the General Council of Congregational Christian churches founded under the influence of New England Puritanism. Moreover, it also subsumed the Calvinist German Reformed. Notably, its modern members' theological and socio-political stances are often very different from those of its predecessors.

The Evangelical and Reformed Church, General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches, and the Afro-Christian Convention, united on June 25, 1957, to form the UCC. The Evangelical and Reformed Church along with the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches, were themselves the result of earlier unions, had their roots in Congregational, Lutheran, Evangelical, and Reformed denominations.

There is no UCC hierarchy or body that can impose any doctrine or worship format onto the individual congregations within the UCC. While individual congregations are independent, they cooperate in a Covenant relationship. The UCC's constitution requires that the "autonomy of the Local Church is inherent and modifiable only by its own action".