

Worship Like Abel!

by Jesse Flowers Knollwood church of Christ Beaver Creek, OH

The first account of worship being offered to God that is recorded in Scripture is the story of Cain and Abel in Genesis 4.

We read: "Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering" (Gen. 4:2-5).

One very important lesson that we learn from this Bible passage is that it matters how we worship God. The LORD does not "respect" and receive every kind of worship man may offer to Him. But why did God respect Abel's offering and not respect Cain's offering? Was God simply showing favoritism? No (Rom. 2:11).

Hebrews 11:4 gives us the answer. "By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks."

Abel's offering was "by faith" while Cain's was not. What does "by faith" mean? Does that mean that Abel merely believed in God while Cain did not? No, both of these men believed in God (Gen. 4:2-15). The answer lies in understanding the source of faith. "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17).

In other words, Abel's offering to God was "by faith" in that he obeyed God's instructions while Cain did not obey God. The text bears out that Cain knew and understood what God required, and could have easily complied, but choose to offer to God what he desired instead (Gen. 4:5-7).

To "worship like Abel" means to worship God "by faith" (Heb. 11:4), as He has instructed us to in His Word (Rom. 10:17). If we choose to worship God as we desire, then He will not respect our worship either and we will be rejected by Him. Our worship will be "in vain" (worthless and empty) if our worship is based on the commandments of men rather than the commandments of God (Matt. 15:8-9; 1 John 5:3).

Don't just assume your worship is "respected" by God because you like it and enjoy it. Make sure that you are a true worshiper of God (John 4:23), that you worship Him in spirit and truth (John 4:24), by comparing it to the worship revealed in the New Testament (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; 16:1-2; Col. 3:16-17).

You may respect the way you worship God, but does He respect it? Worship is not about doing what pleases ourselves, but what pleases God (1 Thess. 2:4). So, worship like Abel!



Please check the
"Love One Another" and "Answered Prayers"
boards in the back of the auditorium.

NEWSLETTER

Nov. 27, 2016

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

minister@lasallechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
* Sunday PM Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday PM Bible Class	7:00 PM

*** There is no PM service on the 5th Sunday of the month.**

La Salle church of Christ

1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 283-1214
lasallechurchofchrist.org

Ladie's Bible Class
Tuesday - 10 AM at the building.

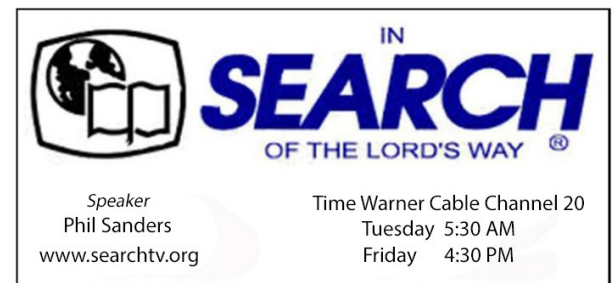
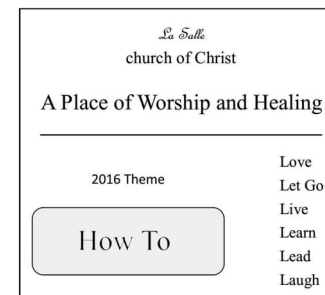


We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.



We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

Prayer List *In our prayers let’s praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Those that attend: Joe Pitts, Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Red & Goldie Crow, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Willow, Darlene Reed, Leo & Jeanne Johns, Butts & Edie Sumner, Rick & Fran Fees, Jodie Kelly, Chris Highway, Keith & Glory Marten, Bev McArthur, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Ron & Jean Cameron, Joyce Cameron, Carol Jones, and Brenda Nelson.

People in other places: Jennifer Walters, Renee Kinney, Diane Fritton, Tim Mellott and family, Billy Stine, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Congressman Ted Poe, Doreen Woods, Betty Leistner, James Proctor, Stephanie, Connie Stewart, Carol’s sister Holly, Frank’s niece, Sheila Donkley, Laval Baptiste, Mary Lou, Mila Roche, Tony & Eglá Grana, Patrick, Susan Barrett & family, Lula Hall, Jack Openshaw, Sue Garner, Liz Holton, George Kohlbacher, Karen Anstee, Mary Lou, and Bob.

Updates:

Wednesday Rahelich is scheduled to go to a Boston hospital tomorrow Nov. 28.

Liz Holton, Noah Bennett’s best friend’s mom, is having surgery Nov 29 for thyroid cancer.

Randy Marten. Keith & Glory are asking for prayers that their son Randy will not have such a hardened heart toward the Gospel.

Bobby Granton, Jessica Alcorn’s friend, is asking for prayers as her 36 yr old son died unexpectedly Nov. 18.

Mary Lou, Anna Brink’s sister, will meet with the surgeon soon.

Also

Let’s pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other problems.

Let’s not only remember those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Let’s remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

Let’s pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let’s pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let’s pray for those who may be traveling.

Let’s pray for the work we help support in Sardinia, NY and also Rogers City, MI.

Let’s pray for God’s people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let’s also pray for Tim Nelsen and his family whom we are helping support while Tim is in preaching school.

Let’s pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

Let’s give thanks to God for the Edmond, OK congregation for all the help they have given us.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Dec. 04 **Potluck** (Groups 4, 5, & 6 to setup & cleanup)

Dec. 17 Men’s Breakfast 8:30 AM

Dec. 18 Men’s Business Meeting

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

Dec. 25 Christmas Day

Dec. 31 New Years Eve

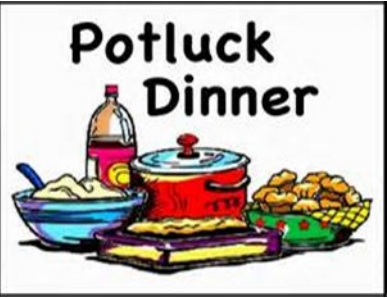


Read Me

Sermon Topic Today: *How To Learn ... To Accept Another*

Scripture Reading: *Romans 14:1-4*

Trays Today: *Sherry Carter*



Some changes and some challenges coming for 2017!

Starting next year, we have moved our Potluck Dinners from once a month to once a quarter (that’s the changes). Now the challenge. We want to encourage everyone to have guests in their homes for fellowship and a meal on the months we do not have a potluck scheduled. The intent is to give everyone an opportunity to enjoy intimate fellowship with one another in each other’s homes. It will also give the church an excellent chance to invite friends to worship and for a meal in our homes. The specific dates for the quarterly pot-luck meals will be determined and announced at a later date.

House to House / Heart to Heart

Our second issue of ***House to House/Heart to Heart*** has arrived and is ready for us to prepare for mailing. We will be getting together tomorrow **at 10 AM** here at the church building to address the brochures. Remember to pray for hearts to be open in the homes we are mailing to.

2017 LADIES DEVOTIONALS

There is a list on the bulletin board in the back of the auditorium to sign-up to facilitate the monthly ladies devotionals on Friday nights. See Audrey if you have questions.

Directory

We want to publish an updated “Directory” in the near future. Please see the paperwork posted in the back concerning this.

Dec. Birthdays

- 02 Leo Johns
- 05 Dennis Reed
- 06 Alex McArthur
- 17 Carol Jones
- 25 Kyra Kyle

Dec. Anniversaries

None This Month

FYI

The Ladies Bible Class will be making fruit baskets for our shut-ins. There is a list and information posted in the back.



Smile and pay someone a compliment today.

