

Acceptable Worship

by Glen Elliot Greenbrier church of Christ Greenbrier, AR

Religious people these days are clamoring for more exciting and appealing ways to conduct worship services. Our opposition to such does not excuse going to the other side of the spectrum, insisting that our services be appropriately dull and boring. Often, lost in the shuffle, is the fact that we do not determine what is acceptable worship. We merely recognize what God has authorized in His inspired word. Sadly, in an effort to gain larger crowds, many have turned their backs on God's word in preference to human wisdom. While there are scriptural ways to improve and enhance the effectiveness of worship, the "get-them-in-at-all-costs" philosophy is filled with pitfalls that undermine the mission of the church for which Jesus died (Lk. 19:10; Acts 20:28). Not all that men do in the name of worship is acceptable in the sight of God. Don't forget the example of Nadab and Abihu who lost their lives because they chose to incorporate unauthorized fire into their worship (Lev. 10:1-3 cf. Ex. 30:34-38).

In a context dealing specifically with worship, Paul writes, "Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name (by the authority) of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father" (Col. 3:16-17). Whatever we do in worship must be backed by Christ's authority.

Respecting the authority of Jesus means that we will not add to or take away from His regulations governing worship. Burning incense along with prayer is an addition to God's instructions regarding worship just as is playing instruments along with singing. Jesus said, "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth" (Jn. 4:24). God has regulated worship in accordance with His truth (Jn. 17:17). By studying His word, we can recognize acceptable worship. Everything else offered to God in worship is rejected simply because it has not been authorized by Jesus Christ.

God knows how He wants to be worshiped. He has given instructions as to how we must worship Him. Any changes in worship procedure must fall within the bounds of His inspired word. Otherwise, our worship experience becomes little more than a sounding board for our own selfish preferences. May God help us as we seek to worship and serve Him alone (Mt. 4:10).

NEWSLETTER

Jan. 08, 2023

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

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Schedule of Services

Our current schedule is:

Sunday Bible Class	10:00 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM

La Salle church of Christ

We Meet At

1121 N. Military Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Phone (716) 283-1214

Website: lasallechurchofchrist.org

This bulletin can also
be found on our website.

We seek to be a place of healing and worship.



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). We would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in one of the receptacles provided at the front and rear of the auditorium. There will be an opportunity to give but as a visitor it is not expected of you. Thanks.



There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs if you need to care for your infant.



Read God's Word

We offer a **free** Bible Correspondence Course

Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent. Thank you.

Condolences to family, friends, and loved ones of June McCurly (former member here) who passed away recently.

Asking for prayers

Brother Elder came seeking the prayers of the family as he deals with shoulder surgery. Also prayers for the spiritual renewal of his daughter Danielle and his new grandson, London. Jeff also asks for prayers that he may reflect the nature of Christ as he continues in leading his community. We also want to lift up Vicki as she ministers to Jeff in his recovery and his leadership role.

Prayers *In our prayers, let's praise God, recognize His greatness, thank Him for His Son and His blessings.*

Please pray as we continue our search for a gospel preacher.

Let's pray for the situation in the Ukraine and surrounding areas.

Jessica Alcorn Let's keep her and her family in our prayers as she deals with cancer. She seems to be doing well with chemo.

Candy Butcher There was a fire recently in her building and although the fire wasn't in her apartment she was affected by water damage. She has been displaced and temporarily moved in with someone else in the building.

Pam Schnell wasn't able to be with us last week due to not feeling very well.

Louella Hopkins is recovering from back issues.

Samantha Mellott is dealing with health issues.

Callari family Let's pray for them as they prepare to return to the Philippines.

Cheryl Moore-Johns (lifelong friend of Bev McArthur) She is facing several surgical procedures.

Brenda, a HTH contact, requests prayers for healing after recent surgery.

Let's pray not only for those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Please keep our loved ones and their caregivers in your thoughts and prayers.

Let's pray for our members that have ongoing health and other issues.

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

Let's pray for our shut-ins, widows and widowers, and call, send cards, and be of service.

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

Let's pray for those dealing with weather related disasters.

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

Let's pray for those that are traveling. May they have a safe journey.

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

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

Let's pray for those taking Bible correspondence courses at the present time.

Let's pray for children, families, and the staff at *Potter Children's Home and Family Ministries*.

Let's pray for the work being done at Great Lakes Christian High School in Beamsville, ONT.

Let's pray for our neighbors receiving *House to House Heart to Heart* that they have receptive hearts.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)*

Jan. 15 **Next Sunday.** Men's Business Meeting

Jan. 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 19 Men's Business Meeting

Feb. 20 Presidents' Day

Mar. 11 Set clocks ahead one hour before going to bed.

Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day

Weekly Budget Amount \$1,843.00

Contribution Last Sunday \$2,137.00

Attendance Last Sunday 36

Financial Reports and Meeting Minutes are posted in the back.

2023 Budget

Please see the 2023 Budget Proposal posted in the back.

Mission Info Please check the *Mission Board* in the back.

Ukraine Relief

John Kachelman, Jr. Cell (901) 626-4538 john@kachelman.com <https://kachelman.com>

For updated reports go to John's website and click on the tab for **Mission Work**.

Philippines We support Caleb & Vanessa Callari doing mission work in the Philippines.

Caleb Callari's Radio Program - "Everyday Follower"

Do a search on YouTube for: Everyday Follower, School of National Evangelism Philippines

Zambia

The LaSalle congregation has been involved in the Zambia mission work for many years.

If you would like to help support the Zambian Mission, please place funds in the offering basket marked for Zambia. More information may be found at www.zambiamission.org

Matthew 19:14

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Dirctory & Phone Tree

A new *Dirctory* is being passed out today.

Because of the time and work that goes into producing it please be advised the goal was to print one per family.

If you do need an extra list of just those that attend there are copies on the back table - printed on green paper.

A copy of the *Phone Tree* is inserted in the *Dirctory* being passed out and also there are some extra copies of the *Phone Tree* on the back table.

It is very important to dispose of previous editions of the *Phone Tree*. We need to all be on the same page.

Thank You

from Rodney & Carol Jones

Thanks to all those who donated items for Heart, Love & Soul. Items that you donated were recently dropped off to them.

Thank You to Hope Rice for updating our bulletin boards.

Pick up a copy of ***Power for Today***.