



# Truth for Today

November 15, 2020

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## Praise The Lord (Psalm 148)

by Rickie Jenkins

“For the Lord commanded and they were created” (Psa. 148:5). He is Maker of all. Therefore, the created ought to praise the Creator.

Then we are told that “His name alone is exalted” (Psa. 148:13). Therefore, He ought to be praised. Also, “His glory is above the earth and heaven” (Psa. 148:13). Those on the earth and things in heaven praise Him who is above. He is greater than and more exalted than all the earth and the heavens with all their glory and grandeur. Because God created us, and His name is above every name, all creation praises Him. Because His glory is above all, His creation praises Him.

Who is to Praise Him?

Heavens and heights are to praise Him (Psa. 148:1). The heavens and heights are said to be angels, hosts, sun, moon, stars, and waters. All praise Him. Heavenly angels serve around the throne of God crying day and night, “Holy, Holy, Holy.”

Animal life praises God (Psa. 148: 7). Also, the inanimate praises God (Psa. 148:8,9). They praise God when they fulfill His word.

Angels do not have a problem praising God. Other created things such as animals, elements, and inanimate things mentioned don't have any problem praising God (Psa. 148:11-12).

All people are to praise God. Kings, princes, judges, young and old praise Him (Psa. 148:11, 12).

All His saints praise Him (Psa. 148:14). By contrast, wouldn't you think His saints would have no problem praising Him? But they do. Because even His saints have a problem in living lives that praise Him. In fact, if you live a life that truly praises Him, it is not because it is easy and comes automatic. It is because you recognize you were put here to praise Him. Therefore, you discipline and control yourself so that you do praise Him. But that requires much effort. All creation is commanded to praise Jehovah.

How do they praise Jehovah?

God appointed the moon to regulate seasons. When the moon does that for which God appointed and created it, the moon is glorifying Him (Psa. 104:19). When the sun rises in the east and goes down in the west and shines on the earth, the sun is praising God. The sun is doing what God created the sun to do. God asks nothing more of the sun and the moon than to do what He created them to do.

When stars shine, they are doing what God created them to do and they praise Him. When fire does what God created it to do it praises God. When fire warms mankind, renews the earth, cooks for those made in the image of God, and creates power for electricity, it is praising God.

Further, it is the same with hail and snow, when they do what God created them to do. They provide moisture for earth. They provide a cover on the ground that takes care of insects that would be a detriment to the crops. Hail and snow are doing what God created them to do and they are praising God.

When vapors do what God created vapors to do, they are praising God. When stormy winds fulfill His word by doing what God created them to do as He controls all things, they are praising God.

Just so with dragons. I do not have slightest idea what they do. But whatever they do, they are praising God when they do what He created them to do. They are fulfilling the will of God and praising Him.

Even so with mountains, hills, fruit trees and cedars. When fruit trees bear fruit for food and for seed, they are praising God. When cedars provide shade and when cut down provide fire for man, they are praising God.

When kings and princes rule for the benefit of their citizens, they praise God. When judges judge righteously and justly, they are doing what God ordained judges to do. When young men and maidens, and old men and children do what God created them to do, they are praising God. When old men act like children, and at times we do, we are not praising God.

That brings us to the praise of all His saints (Psa. 148:14). His saints are the ones from whom God really desires praise. Glory or praise unto God is in the church (Eph. 3:21). When we are part of that saved relationship, we praise God. Saints are His new creation. God has made His new creation with a purpose. God before ordained good works in which His new creation should walk. (Eph. 2:10). When we do those good works which God ordained, we are praising Him.

We glorify His exalted name when we do what He has created us to do.

What are those good works God's new creation has been created to do?

He created us anew to live and become like Jesus. That is our purpose in life. Then one day we can receive the prize of heaven. Saints are fulfilling their responsibility by being transformed into His image. Also, saints praise God by living a pure life and by being an example to others (Matt. 5:16). Additionally, saints praise God by teaching others (2Tim. 2:2). When saints worship God they praise Him (Jn. 4:23-24). Once again, when saints serve God as a living sacrifice, they praise Him (Rom.12:1-2). When saints are servants of righteousness, God is praised (Rom. 6:14).

As God's new creation, saints are to praise Him in every part of their lives: family, social, civil, and business. That means every waking moment He is exalted and praised in those relationships.

# NEWS & NOTES

## UPDATED PRAYER LIST

- **Keith and Debbie Arrants** are improving.
- **Kathy Austin's** knee procedure went well on Tuesday. The other knee will soon be scheduled.
- **Norman and Tricia Davis** are both improved.
- **Don and Tracey Hooton** are still home sick.
- **Linda Peterson** is home from her surgery.
- **Lyn Ray** is doing well too
- **Rich Shewmake** had a colonoscopy Friday morning and aspirated fluid into his lungs. He is in Woodlands St. Luke's in ICU until he can swallow to take his medicine. Pneumonia in left lung.
- **John Winfield** was admitted to Houston Northwest on 1960 and is on oxygen in ICU because of COVID-19. After treatment on Friday night, he is doing some better on Saturday. Prayers appreciated.
- **Mickey Chandler's** grandmother, Nora Chandler, had surgery on Wednesday after breaking her hip that was complicated by an aneurysm. Prayers appreciated.
- **Karen Dargan's** parents' Bobby and Vera Thompson have special medical concerns and Karen has been caring for them. Pray for her and Steve who have been caring for them.
- **Morgan Potter's** mother, Jackie, is doing well.
- Congratulations to the **Davis'** in the birth of their first grandchild to **Danni and Dustin McCormick** on Friday, 11/6. Little Rayleigh Ruth is good and mom is too.
- **Ed Brand** is in the hospital somewhere between Nairobi and Nyahururu, Kenya. They first diagnosed him with kidney stone. Later moved him to private hospital, did more tests and now say it is inflamed gallbladder. He is on antibiotics and pain meds. Will be in hospital for several more days.

## IN-PERSON SCHEDULE *(Seating is based on*

*pew capacities to maintain safe seating distances. Please follow recommended wearing of face masks, especially when singing).*

- **ONE SUNDAY SERVICE—TODAY, 11/15** at 10:00 a.m. (Lord willing).
- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS, 7:00 PM.** Adult class is "BECOMING MORE LIKE JESUS" and children classes will meet in their rooms to resume the curriculum series.
- **TUESDAY CLASS, 10:30 AM.** "FROM BONDAGE TO FREEDOM: the story of Israel (from Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers) **POSTPONED until 12/1**
- **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASSES, Beginning 12/6, 9:00 AM.**
  - We will resume Bible Classes for all ages on Sundays on 12/6 at 9:00 a.m. Our new schedule will be 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. (worship) on Sundays.

## VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

- LiveStream events are still InPerson events and replayable on our YouTube Channel*
- **Worship** | Sundays, 10:00 a.m.
  - **Adult Class** | Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
  - **Adult Class** | Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

## MEETINGS, EVENTS, SINGINGS & STUDIES

- **2:52 Kids Class** on first Sundays[2-12] | 12/6 4:00 p.m. (classroom 9)
- **TEEN BIBLE CLASS [12-18]** | Bible Class on First Sundays | 12/6, 4:00 p.m. (classroom 5)
- **BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES Bible Class** on first Sundays | 12/6, 4:00 p.m. (auditorium)
- **TEEN HOME DEVO [12-18]** | Sat., 11/21, TBA at the Suarez's.
- **YOUNG ADULTS STUDY** | TBA
- **ADULTS STUDY [30/40]** | (TBA)
- **2020 EVENTS**
  - Area-Wide Singing | Sat., 3/6
  - Gospel Meeting with Ed Brand | 3/28-31
  - VBS | 6/22-25\* (Tue-Fri)
  - Youth Lectures with Caleb Churchill &

Andy Harrison | 8/7-8

- Gospel Meeting with Mike Wilson | 9/26-29

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

- Contact Brian with updates or if you need a PDF of the directory.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS** See the Monthly Assignments and let Barrett, Al, or Nathan know if you cannot fulfill an assignment.
- **Willing to TEACH?** We now need teachers for Spring quarter. **Please contact Don Hooton if you are willing to teach.**
- **WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE?** See Leo Betancourt.
- **HOSPITALITY?** Maureen Chegin and Cecelia Neel will coordinate food for members who need assistance during an extended recovery period after surgery or for the family at a funeral.

## WEEKLY BIBLE READING

**Week Forty-six** (beginning 11/15)

- READ Psalm 45, 95, 145
- MEMORIZE Psalm 145:8-10

Attendance	InPerson Average Last-Month	Virtual Average Last-Month	InPerson Last Week	Virtual Views Last Week
Sunday Adult Class	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sunday Worship AM	<b>121</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>57</b>
Tuesday Adult Class	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>		
Sunday Worship PM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wednesday PM	<b>59</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9</b>

SUNDAYS	10:00 AM   11/15	10:00 AM   11/22	CONTACT INFORMATION
Foyer 1-Welcome	Stuart Jones	Jay Dunlin	<i>Elders</i>
Foyer 2-Ushering	Ross Randow	Leo Betancourt	Keith Arrants   936.582.1244
SongLeading	Alan Stilts	Jonathan Chandler	George Chapman   281.298.1303
1st Prayer	Adam Bohanan	Nathan Shows	Norman Davis   832.326.2966
Scripture	Carson French	Michael Harvey	Don Hooton   936.443.6230
Scripture Reading	1Chronicles 29:11-15	Hebrews 11:1-16	<i>Deacons</i>
Communion_Lead	Keith Arrants	Dwight Osteen	Adam Bohanan   281.798.1093
Preaching	Mickey Chandler	Don Hooton	Brian Clark   281.513.0706
2nd Prayer	Michael Henss	Brian Clark	Gary LeBlanc   281.292.0262
Announcements	Norman Davis	Keith Arrants	Craig Preuss   832.477.0578
Sanitize-Bathrooms After	C&T Chapman	Osteens	<i>Evangelists</i>
Sanitize-Pews After	Randows	Shows	Don Hooton   936.443.6230
Building Open/Lockup	Haas	Bohanan	<i>Website</i>
Sound 1	Chris Latson	Chris Latson	www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org
Communion Prep	G&L Chapman	G&L Chapman	<i>Office Phone</i>
Counting Contribution	Keith Arrants - Barrett Blankenship	George Chapman & Nathan Shows	281.367.2099
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM   11/18	7:00 PM   11/25	Church Email
SongLeading	Adam Bohanan	Ross Randow	woodlandschurchofchrist@gmail.com
Invitation/Talk	Hayden Clark	Dwight Haas	
Prayer	Nathan Shows	Gerald Hodges	
Announcements	Norman Davis	Don Hooton	