## TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Welcome by: Daniel Balch /Opening Prayer by: Don Taylor*

*Morning Assembly Song Leader: Brooks McKelroy*

#560 Living by Faith
#570 A Beautiful Life

*Scripture Reading by: Matthew Girard*
#595 I Come to the Garden Alone
***Lord's Supper and Contribution***

#574 Oh, How I Love Jesus
***Sermon: Love God, Love Others***
***Mark 12:28-32***

#589 Leaving on the Everlasting Arms
#578 We Will Glorify

*Closing Prayer by: Craig Girard*

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*Welcome by Daniel Balch*

*Evening Assembly Song Leader: Brooks McKelroy*

#587 Sing and Be Happy
#611 Heavenly Sunlight

*Opening Prayer: Ken Coleman*
#613 Gold to God's Unchanging Hand

***Sermon: So You Made a Mistake***
***Psalm 31:1-5***

#648 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus
#712 Jesus Is Coming Soon

*Closing Prayer: Wayne Noonkester*

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***Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth***

**Sunday**: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 5:00pm — Worship
**Wednesday**: 6:30pm — Bible Study Classes

June 6, 2021

# *"Stand Firm in…Liberty"*

Galatians 5:1

**I Thank My God**

*I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me…Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again.* **(Philippians 4:10, 14-16)**

Paul had a special relationship with the church in Philippi. The beginnings of the congregation were rather less than smooth. His typical practice on entering a new city was to first visit the local synagogue and make an appeal to the Jews. But there was no synagogue in Philippi. Instead, he found a group of women praying by the riverside. He spoke to them and one, a merchant named Lydia, was baptized, along with her employees.

Next, Paul encountered a slave girl possessed by an evil spirit who kept following him around. He cast out the spirit. Unfortunately, that caused him to run afoul of her owners, who lost their meal ticket. They complained to the magistrates, who had Paul and his coworker, Silas, beaten and imprisoned.

That night, they were praying and singing in their cell, when an earthquake threw open the doors. Their jailer, knowing his life was forfeit under Roman law, was about to commit suicide, when Paul stopped him. Paul told him about Jesus, and he and his household were baptized that very night.

From these inauspicious beginnings—a female small business owner and her employees, a slave girl, and a jailer and his family—the church in Philippi was planted. But what a harvest the Lord reaped from those seeds!

The Philippian letter overflows with love, with joy, with thanksgiving for this church. Most of Paul's letters are occasioned by problems that he needs to address in the congregation. But not this one; it is primarily a letter of friendship. Look at how Paul talks about them in **Phil 1:3-8:**

*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the*

# Family News & Notes

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

## Our Sick

**Oscar Cantu** is taking chemo treatments

**Lynn Taylor,** Don Taylor's sister in law, had surgery and is at home.

## Continued Prayers
## (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Joe Edd Stifflemire, Winston Leifester, Caitlin Smith, J. C. Whitfield

## Shut Ins
## (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Larry Hicks, Catherine Parker

## Our Missionaries

Aaron & Marisa Bailey in Mwanza, Africa, Rod Kyle in the South Pacific

## Upcoming Activities

**Deacons** meet today at 4:15 p.m.

**Primetimers** will be going to Marcella's Italian Grill on Tuesday, June 8th at 6:00 p.m. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

We will have a Houston Food Bank truck on Thursday, June 17th at 8:00 a.m.

**VBS** is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 19-Thursday, July 22nd. For more information, see Abbey Perkins.

Remember Sunday evening service tonight is at 5:00 p.m.

| Elders | Deacons | Minister |
|---|---|---|
| Ken Coleman | Daniel Balch | Bryant Perkins |
| Bobby Rader | Danny Balch | |
| Don Taylor | Phillip Strickhausen | |
| Robert Ward | | |

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*day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.*

Each time they came to mind he thanked God for them, his prayers bursting with joy. He was thankful for their partnership in spreading of gospel, based not only on their status as Christians, but their literal support of him: they repeatedly aided him financially. And note, Paul did not accept help from every church. This one was singled out for that status. They were dear to him.

The point for us is that this is the kind of special relationship we can enjoy within a congregation. That has been more than a bit disrupted over the past year as we all know; perhaps some of us are feeling somewhat disconnected from each other or from the church in general.

But last Sunday, we had a celebration of our graduates, getting together to eat on a large scale for the first time in a year. Wednesday night, many of us shared a meal together before Bible class, something we intend to do at least twice a month for the foreseeable future. Later this afternoon, we will assemble on Sunday evening for the first time in 15 or so months as we begin a new program designed to help us get more involved in various facets of the church.

Things are turning around. We are working hard to try to come up with ways to ignite and energize us in our life together, and we encourage you to take advantage of all these new opportunities for fellowship and service. As Wes Blankenship, the brother who handles our website, put it a few days ago when I emailed him the notice to publicize about our Sunday evening services, "Man, the term 'final COVID update' makes me so happy." Me too.

I thank God that we are coming through the other side of this. I thank God for you. May the Lord bless us all in our time together.

***Bryant Perkins***