TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Daniel Balch /Opening Prayer by: Robert Ward

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#738 Take the Name of Jesus with You
#827 Sweet Hour of Prayer

Scripture Reading by: Matthew Girard
#382 Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?
Lord's Supper and Contribution

#470 Victory in Jesus
Sermon : "People Fishing"
Mark 1:16-20

#940 Only a Step
#966 Amen

Closing Prayer by: Andre Jones

Welcome by Daniel Balch

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#552 Have Thine Own Way
#549 There Is Sunshine in My Soul

Scripture Reading: Parker Balch
Opening Prayer: David Smith
#417 Where He Leads I'll Follow

Sermon: "His Life: Jesus and Isaac"
Hebrews 11:17-19

#361 Nailed to the Cross
#583 When We All Get to Heaven

Closing Prayer: Brooks McKelroy

Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth

Sunday: 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship
Wednesday: 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

Feb. 9, 2020

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"

Galatians 5:1

Don't Let Your Politics Trump Your Christian Principles

Here is another excellent article from Wes McAdams' blog "Radically Christian." I shared this on Facebook this week, but I know that not everyone has an opportunity to see that, so I am reprinting it here. Especially in light of recent national events, I believe this is a timely reminder for those on both sides of the aisle. BP

During the political season some of us seem to say and do things unbecoming of Christians. I suppose it has always been this way, but I believe fear and anxiety have been exacerbated by social media and the 24 hour news cycle. So this is a friendly reminder to not allow your politics to trump your Christian principles.

Be Wise
Whoever you're voting for – or whether or not you're even voting – you probably think your political choice is the wise choice. You most likely want others to see the wisdom in your choice. There is nothing wrong with that. But let me ask you, what is real wisdom? What does wisdom look like?

Most people think wisdom is just about knowledge; making the right choices and having the best arguments. However, James wrote, "Wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere" (**James 3:17**).

When you interact with people about politics, are you being peaceable? Are you being gentle? Are you being "open to reason"? That phrase means you can easily be convinced when someone presents a solid counterargument. So when you interact with people, are you showing yourself to be "open to reason" or are you showing yourself to be stubborn and hard-headed?

You might very well be making the best choice politically, but that doesn't mean you're necessarily being wise about how you express your political views. I think we could use a little more "wisdom from above" in the current political season.

Don't Gossip or Slander
There is a vast difference between sharing your thoughts about a legitimate news item and passing along conspiracy theories that may or may not be true, simply because they bolster your political argument. Whether or not you like the person, or agree with their policies, you must remember that

Family News & Notes

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

Our Sick

Derrick Loften is recovering from burns.

Kaitlyn McMichael Hanks is having health problems.

Continued Prayers
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Dayla Hale, Joe Edd Stifflemire, Barry Johnson, Kelly McCain

Shut Ins
(Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Dr. Ronald Davis, Larry Hicks, Mark Wilcox, Bill Lunceford

Our Missionaries

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

Plastic Bags

The Food Bank is in need of plastic grocery bags and **egg cartons**. A barrel is in the foyer.

Upcoming Activities

Elders, Minister meet Monday, Feb. 10th at 7:00 p.m.

Singing at Magnolia Place Health Care today at 4:00 p.m.

Primetimers will be meeting in the family life center on Tuesday, Feb. 11th at 6:30 pm. We will learn how to make tamales. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Valentine Banquet, Saturday, Feb. 15th from 6-8 p.m. The cost is $10 per person. Please RSVP by Sunday, Feb. 9th. Sign up sheets are on the table in the foyer.

Early Bird Singing, Sunday, Feb. 16th at 5:00 p.m.

New Phone Number

Please note new phone number for Barbara Cantu, 713-252-3496. The number in the directory has been disconnected.

"Stand Firm in…Liberty"

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Minister's (Bryant Perkins) Cell Phone Number (903)407-5737
Website: libertycofc.org Facebook page: Liberty Church of Christ

Privilege to Serve
Sunday, Feb. 9th

Communion Preparation: Barbara Pringle
Nursery Attendants: Chelsey Frazier

Communion Preparation for Sunday, Feb. 16th:: Marsha Rader
Nursery Attendants for Sunday, Feb. 16th: Melony Hicks, Ashley Balch

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every political candidate is an actual human being created in the image of God.

When you speak about a political candidate, the same "rules" apply as when you are talking about your next door neighbor. Even if you don't like your neighbors, even if your neighbors are horrible people, it doesn't give you the right to spread rumors about them. You still must treat your neighbors – and political candidates – as you would like to be treated (**Matthew 7:12**). Do you really want others spreading nasty rumors about you?

Colossians 3:8 says, "But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth." You do not have the right to talk maliciously about, or spread rumors about, someone just because they are running for public office.

We must stand for truth. And standing for truth doesn't just mean supporting the right candidates or the right policies, it also means verifying everything for accuracy before spreading it to others.

Don't Be Divisive

The church has too much division already and the way we express our opinions about politics often causes even more division. There is nothing wrong with expressing your opinions, but when you express them in such a way that you make your brothers and sisters in Christ your enemies, your opinion has become a spiritual problem.

Yes, the character and the policies of those holding public office are important. Yes, lives hang in the balance. But we cannot sacrifice the unity of the church in order to achieve our political aims.

Romans 12:16 says, "Live in harmony with one another." And **Proverbs 6:19** says the Lord hates when someone sows discord among brothers.

Politics are temporary. The church and your soul are eternal. Don't let temporary things trump eternal things.