

CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 N. Sunrise Highway,
Patchogue, NY 11772

Phone: 631-475-6556

E-mail: lanwat@live.com

www.patchoguecofc.org

Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities
Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	11/30	11/23
Bible Classes	35	40
Morning Worship	77	81
Contribution	\$1870	\$2017
Mid Week Bible Class—Wed.	31	36

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



Overflowing with Thankfulness

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2:6-7 NIV)

The holiday season is upon us and it seems like this year Thanksgiving Day was pushed out the way with all the sales and early opening of stores for those sales. Many people become “thankful” by the things or the thought of things of this world that they might receive. If we took a sober assessment of ourselves we’d find that we as disciples also act like this at times.

Scripture teaches us we need to first receive Christ Jesus and we need to receive him as Lord. Don't be fooled, young people. Many people receive Jesus, but not as Lord. Next, we are to continue in him being rooted and built up; strengthened in the faith as you were **taught**. Not strengthened in things you were **bought** nor what you **thought** you should have received. Finally, we can be overflowing with thankfulness whether we receive something or nothing.

In conclusion, we can be overflowing with thankfulness if we follow the plan: receive Jesus as Lord, stay rooted and built up in him. Continue in the faith we were taught and then we can overflow with thankfulness that lasts all year round.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ

1 N. Sunrise
Highway.

Volume 1 No. 11

December 7, 2014

Crown Him, King of Kings!

"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death Crowned with glory and honor" (Heb. 2:9).

His coronation in heaven took place after His resurrection and glorification. He was crowned King of Kings. That however was in heaven, not in our lives here on earth. Each of us must without coercion and of our own free will, crown this same Jesus King of Kings over our own lives. To this end He was born and for this reason He lived. Angels and the heavenly host understood that Jesus is King even from His birth. When the Angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds in the field and told them of the birth of Christ the Lord, *"suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men,"* (Luke 2:13-14). Heaven erupted in ecstatic joy - the Christ was born. He was bringing glory to God and peace and harmony here on earth. These shepherds went on a pilgrimage to find Christ and having found Him returned, *"glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen"* (Luke 2:20).

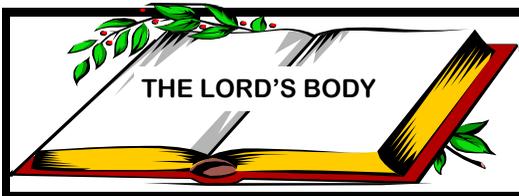
At the birth of Christ therefore, we see Him being worshiped by the Angels, the Magi and the shepherds. Christ was their King. They worshipped Him. They crowned Him! At the end of His ministry He would wear the "Crown of Thorns," *"And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the*

knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, king of the Jews" (Matt. 27:29).

These Jews are not the only ones whose homage to Christ is one of mockery and not one of reverence and awe. We today are not much different. This season of Christmas is in honor of the birth of Christ. For many people, Jesus is not much more than the doll in the crib as depicted in many nativity scenes and plays. Even the word “Christmas” is modified. Christ has been removed from Christmas and all that is left is “X-mas.” Where He is included it is more in mockery than service. The drinking, the partying, the dancing, the debauchery are not occasions for the presence of Christ. These are things that are contrary to the teachings, presence and spirit of Christ. Christ is comfortable in surroundings or happenings where what abounds are love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and self-control.

Christmas as celebrated and understood by the majority of people is a mockery to Christ. The Jews gave him a reed for His scepter, in other words, Christ was not an authority that was acceptable to them. Their authority was Caesar, a worldly king. Christ however is the true King. He has all authority, in heaven and on earth. Accept Him and live, reject Him, to your peril. His scepter is righteousness, and His throne is forever and ever. His kingdom has no end and His people have everlasting life. Is Jesus Christ your king?

Lancelot W.



The family by John Stallworth



*LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD*



Ladies' Corner
by
Paulette Watron

Privileged to Serve 12/06/2014

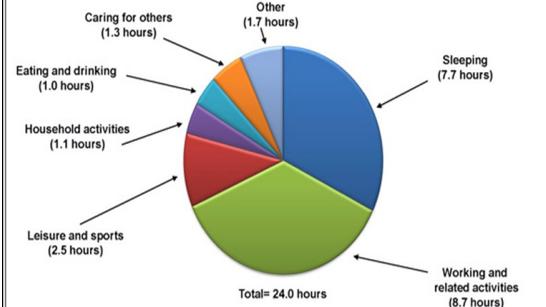
Morning Service

Song leader	Brian Maddox
Welcome/Prayer	Derek Peterson
Song #	4
Scripture - Psalm 25:1-8	Bailey Holfman
Song #	753
Song #	827
Second Prayer	Jason Holfman
Song #	337 - 1,2,5
Lord's table and Collection:	
Lead	James Guiffre
Assistant	John Sicignano
Assistant	Jamal Colson
Assistant	Ryan Costello
Song - Kids to class	
Song #	222
Scripture - Matt. 2:1-2, 9-11	Kyle Watkins
Sermon	Lancelot Watson
Invitation #	930
Responses & prayer:	
Mike Salimbene	
Jamal Colson	
Announcements &	
Closing Prayer	Derek Petersen
Closing Song #	703

"I don't have time"

The graph below is an American study from 2013. Consider what the graph might look like for a committed disciple of Christ? Take some time now to figure out and fill in your own graph. What does it look like? The religious answer is "God" would take up some of the time. I'll ask you to consider how?

Time use on an average work day for employed persons ages 25 to 54 with children



Each of us get a 24 hour check each day. We can spend it how we see fit. We have all the time we are going to get. We have to decide what is going to consume the big chunks.

Consider what Paul said to the Corinthians: *1 Cor. 6:19-20 - Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.* Have you ever tried to live this out?

'TIS THE SEASON –

The Christmas season is now here and many consider giving. Dropping change in a red bucket is OK, but regardless of the time of year, giving IS Christianity. We should not passively give only when it is obvious or requested, but regularly give. Also, *giving in "contribution" is not the same as giving to the poor, and the latter is the measuring rod used at judgment day.*

- **Proverbs 28:27** - He that gives to the poor shall not lack; but he that hides his eyes shall have many a curse.
 - **Proverbs 21:13** - Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.
 - **Proverbs 19:17** - **Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done.**

- **Matthew 25:40** - "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

The cries of the *desstitute poor* Proverbs 21 discusses are hard to hear because of isolation both in and outside of our country.

Note the last two verses - **Each person possesses a portion of spirit from God, and also bears the image of God our giving is a literal transaction with HIM and will decide our eternity. In no uncertain terms He is a witness and recipient at the time each of us gives....or doesn't.** This season, please consider giving to those in the world who make the poorest of Americans seem rich.

Some suggestions for purposeful giving:

- Every Orphan's Hope – everyorphan.org – They take in orphans in Africa and teach them the Bible. You can buy chickens for kids, contribute to building a house for them, and decide exactly what your money will do.
- The Morning Center – morningcenter.org – many women considering abortions do so for fear and lack of resource but fail to remember they will destroy someone bearing the image of the Almighty. Morning center provides prenatal and maternal care for women that need it as well as Christian training.
- Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort- disasterrelieffort.org
They respond to areas of need struck by disasters such as tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and have rendered people instantly from a place of wealth to poverty.
- Lastly – consider "adopting" a family from any reputable charity, then during your communications deliberately explain the reason and rationale of your giving. It allows you to directly communicate and possibly convert through your actions.

Freezing Outside but Warm Inside

December has ushered in some cold days, and we know more will come as the winter rolls on. It's time for hot soup, hot chocolate, hot tea, and the like to help warm our chilled bones. There is also a way to warm our hearts—filling them with warming thoughts of gifts from God and His word.

Joy and peace from God are heart warmers. Paul prayed, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him" (Rom. 15:13). Meditating on the gift of salvation and trusting in God gives us peace and joy, as does appreciation of God's presence in our lives. The Proverb writer exclaimed, "I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence" (Proverbs 8:30). Indeed, just the thought of God's presence – with us individually – protecting, providing, healing, and strengthening – is a source of tremendous comfort and joy when we think about it.

The Psalmist reminds us of two other gifts from God to keep us warm in heart: "Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.' The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy" (Psalms 126:2-3). We have heard that laughter is a great medicine, providing an emotional state that is good for our health. Singing, like laughter, helps to maintain a feeling of well-being. These are two blessings that as Christians we have in abundance, and as the Psalmist points out, when seen by the world, show that the Lord has been good to us—more evangelical tools!

As we move into winter, let us treasure blessings from God that will keep our hearts warm. We have mentioned joy, peace, thinking of God's presence with us, laughter and song. There are so many more. Let us declare like David, "My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendor all day long (Psalms 71:8).

The Gospel Truth

A publication of the Patchogue Church of Christ, 1 N. Sunrise Highway, (North Service Road), Corner of Hewlett Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772.
 Editors:
 Lancelot Watson - 781-420-4412
 John Stallworth - 631-312-1597
 Benjamin Field - 516-885-2365
 E-mail comments, articles and questions to: lanwat@live.com