

**A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ
April 30, 2023**

Singing, Praying, and Serving Work Best Together

“It takes no effort to sing.” I saw that quote shared with approval recently. It is a false statement. With the understanding that Christians should live our faith in the public square, singing is part and parcel of that experience. From biblical calls for all of creation to sing praises to God to singing attested in Paul’s letters to singing before God’s throne in Revelation, followers of the living God sing. How can they do otherwise? To call for a cessation of singing by Christians borders on heresy. Jesus and his disciples sang at the Last Supper. The church sang in the days and weeks following Pentecost. Christians in Corinth sang. James urged,

“Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord” (James 5:13-14).

Singing expresses joy. But we also may sing songs of lament that communicate our brokenness or that advocate that God take action against injustice and other sin. Singing usually is intentional. We decide to sing. Sometimes, it is true, we may find ourselves singing a song that we heard without paying much attention to the lyrics or whether we are singing well. The tune is “stuck in our head.” For some reason it resonates with us and so we sing it as we move about. Usually, we sing what we believe, what we enjoy, or words that express what we feel. Singing has transformed movements and provided an emotional underpinning that sustained during the darkest hours. Singing and prayer together with action that flows from those lyrics and prayers glorifies God, lifts hearts, corrects wrongs, and fastens convictions firmly in our hearts.

Singing takes effort. We have to breathe to sing. We have to read, hear, or remember to sing. Sometimes it may take courage to sing. Sing can awaken an individual’s awareness, but also capture the attention of a society. Singing may vilify, but it may also teach righteousness and chart a path towards God. And sometimes, whether we sing songs of praise or psalms of lament, we also pray, as in these words from James Weldon Johnson’s chorus, “Lift Every Voice and Sing,”

“God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, Thou who has brought us thus far on the way; Thou who has by thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee, lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee.”

Songs and prayers without serving ignore God’s answers to our advocacy for others. Serving without singing and pray removes joy and spirit from discipleship. We must not separate our singing and prayer from our living as people who follow in the path blazed by Jesus, who demonstrated love in action, by association, by selfless service and by sacrificial giving of himself, who called us to follow him, the Messiah who sang, even when the chorus of our song reflects that we suffer as he did in overcoming the power of death. Let us sing, let us pray, and let us serve courageously. `

- Michael Summers

Our Prayer List



North Kitsap Community NDP Event
5/4/23 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Gateway Fellowship Poulsbo, WA

- Paula Hill had another surgery on Monday and it went well. Hopefully, this is the last one.
- Amber Broede's c-section has been rescheduled for today (4/19) Pray for a successful surgery and recovery. Pray for her and Nick and their precious baby
- Please lift Gary White up in your prayers. He was in the ER recently with a bad kidney infection. He is still in pain. Pray for his healing.
- Request from Brooke Armenta: Please pray for me. I've been so light headed and dizzy it scares me. This year has been so hard for me and my family. I'm praying for healing over my body and blessings of peace. Thank you.

- Brandon is graduating. The Frys are flying there. Continued prayers are requested for Daniel (Fry's grandson) and his mother, Lisa.
- Tony DelBarto is now at home and is daily improving. He is grateful for all the prayers on his behalf.
- Lift Mary Carter and her loved ones in prayers over the passing of her husband Ruben.
- Keep Barbara Byrd in your prayers. She isn't doing very well.
- Pray for Paula Hill's father, Ken Stratton who is recovering from a fall and is in a lot of pain.
- Pray for Jim Scott and family over the passing of his wife Theresa.
- Please continue prayers for Zach and Meredith's twins who are now at 2 lbs. and are growing. The concerns are their brains are ok.
- Please add our recent baptisms to your prayer list so we can help them grow: Greg Wood and his daughter Alexia Wood, Stafford Carter, Stan Whisenant, Hal Williams, Rich Hurd, Barbra Forani, Ben Thomas, and Danika Armenta and Josephine Saiz.
- Pray for the Mercy Mobile ministry, led by Cisco and Heather Velez as they minister to the homeless.
- Pray for the people of Ukraine.
- Remember to thank and praise God for our many blessings, both physical and spiritual.
- Pray that the rampant drugs running in our community can be curtailed.
- Pray for wisdom for those who enforce drug abuse and for their safety.
- Pray for our leadership team and all our ministries.



Mercy-Mobile Fund-Raising Day This Sunday, April 30, 2023

There will be a special offering Sunday morning April 30th to allow us to continue to be involved in the Mercy-Mobile ministry as they continue to provide food to the homeless in South Kitsap.

This ministry not only provides food for the homeless, but has also brought people to a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

- Matthew 25:40

POCOC Web Site (<http://pococ.weebly.com/>)

- Weekly Bulletin – Go to <http://pococ.weebly.com/> then click on Bulletin & Newsletters
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online. Click on Teachings
- Current Event Calendar - Click on News & Events
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous video recordings, too:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ then click on the desired video.
 Please subscribe to be notified when new videos post or when we go live.



<p>Sunday Worship for April 30, 2023 (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon) (Children are dismissed for Children’s Church after communion)</p> <p>Watch live-stream or after our worship time: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ</p>					
Speaker: Trent Herbert	Singing Josh Bedford	Scripture: Trent Herbert	Prayer: Jon Powless	Communion: Jim Snead	Offering: Trent Herbert
May Servers – Brian Bungart Dave Lawrence Elijah Herbert Terry Bratcher					
<p>9:30 am Adult Class: Auditorium Trent Herbert</p>			<p>Children Class: Downstairs Two Classes: children and pre-teen</p>		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID					
<p>Men’s Fellowship Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am</p>			<p>Ladies in the Word Conference Room Tuesdays - 10:00 am</p>		
<p>Bible Class & Prayer Ephesians (in person or on Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:00 pm</p>			<p>Ladies Prayer Group LaDonna's home Thursdays 10:00 am</p>		
Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com			April 23, 2023 Tithes & Offerings – \$ 1,553.00		
			If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID					

Communion and Tithes & Offerings

The bread and fruit of the vine will be served during our communion time. You also have the option to pick up your communion supplies as you enter the auditorium. It contains both the juice and the bread.

There are also a few options for giving your tithes & offerings:

- 1) The collection box is in the foyer at the entrance to the auditorium.
- 2) Online bill-pay with your bank or credit union. Your bank will mail your check for you.
- 3) Mail your tithe/offering check directly to the Church address below. We have a lock mailbox.

Happy Birthday!

May: Isaac Benjamin – 2, Gary Chasteen – 3, Julia Karn – 17, Barbara Chasteen – 25, Levi Herbert – 26.

June: Judy VanLeuven – 11, Obidiah Herbert – 14, Miki Gross – 23, Kenny Benjamin – 24, Greg Warner – 29, René Powless – 29, David Pilita – 26.

When All of God's Singers Get Home

Verse 1

What a song of delight in that city so bright
Will be wafted 'neath heaven's fair dome
How the ransomed will raise
Happy songs in His praise
When all of God's singers get home

Chorus

When all of God's singers get home
Where never a sorrow will come
There'll be no place like home
When all of God's singers get home

Verse 2

As we sing here on earth
Songs of sadness or mirth
'Tis a foretaste of rapture to come
But our joy can't compare with the glory up there
When all of God's singers get home

Verse 3

Having overcome sin hallelujah amen
Will be heard in that land o'er the foam
Ev'ry heart will be light
And each face will be bright
When all of God's singers get home

*"The Lord your God is with you,
He is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing."
- (Zephaniah 3:17)*

*"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly
as you teach and admonish one another with all
wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs
from the Spirit, singing to God with
gratitude in your hearts."
- Colossians 3:16 NIV*



<https://youtu.be/4UUoODKIVkl>

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CCLI Song # 440528

Luther G. Presley | Virgil O. Stamps

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