

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

Sunday Morning Service

- Song Leader Philip Steele
- Scripture Reading Tom Haddox
- Opening Prayer Tom Haddox
- Lord's Supper Luke Collinsworth
- Closing Prayer Jim Tobias
- Closing Prayer Kelly Knepley

Sunday Evening Service

- Song Leader Akel Marshall
- Opening Prayer Philip Steele
- Closing Prayer Luke Collinsworth

Wednesday Evening Service – Feb 19th

- Song Leader Philip Steele
- Opening Prayer Tom Haddox
- Closing Prayer Luke Collinsworth

Today's Sermons:

AM – Fill'er Up

Scripture Reading: [Matthew 12:43-45](#)

PM – Jesus, Our Kinsman Redeemer

Wednesday Adult Class Study: [2nd Samuel](#)

“Let Brotherly Love Continue”

Hebrew 13:1

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SERVICES OF THE CHURCH

Sunday



SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY

Local Cable 18

@ 7:00 AM and 4:30 PM

Bible Class	9:30 AM
Morning Worship	10:30 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class	6:30 PM
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February 16, 2014

The Suffering Savior

Part 2

by Randall Casselman, Bella Vista Church of Christ, AR

Then there was His physical suffering. I suppose there could be no more intense pain than that from scourging. A short whip with small balls of lead tied near the ends of each thong, was brought down full force again and again across Jesus's shoulders, back, and legs. This was done with such force that sometimes bones would be fractured or broken. At first, flesh and muscles are bruised, then the skin was opened. Succeeding blows, thirty-nine in all, would cut deeper into the subcutaneous tissues producing an oozing of blood from the capillaries and veins, and finally, spurting arterial bleeding from underlying vessels. This beating was maintained until the back was nothing more than ribbons of bleeding flesh. Think of Jesus anticipating each succeeding blow.

A crown of thorns was driven into his scalp, causing profuse bleeding. They returned his robe, only to tear it off again, opening the wounds of dried blood adhering to the cloth. We don't know what the cross weighed, but Jesus suffered under the burden. So much so that He stumbled under its weight. Reminds us of Isaiah's prophecy: *He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*" (Isaiah 53.4-5).

Crucifixion is a hideous way to die. It's really death by suffocation. The condemned is violently thrown backward against the cross reopening the scourging wounds with dirt and wood. The arms and legs are slightly flexed and iron spikes measuring 5 to 7 inches are driven through Jesus' lower wrists. The feet are nailed next. Jesus is now crucified. After a few moments, the chest muscles paralyze. The crucified is forced to pull against the nails in the wrists, push against those in the feet, in order to release the chest muscles for one more breath. There's the searing agony of the nails tearing through the nerves of both hands and feet.

After hours of this cyclic pain, Jesus slips into semi-consciousness due to asphyxiation. At about three o'clock, Jesus exclaims: *"My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"* Jesus dies.

Breaking the legs would insure death because one could no longer pull and push himself up and down against the cross releasing the chest muscles for another breath. But this was unnecessary in Jesus' case. He was found to be dead by the soldiers. So, in apparent defiant frustration, a spear was thrust into His side, which likely ruptured his lungs and heart bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.

Jesus was dead! Where we should have died, He died for us, to save us. The Hebrews' writer tells us that: *"He suffered and died to make us holy through His own blood."* Hebrews 13.12. Paul wrote: *"In Him we have*

redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1.7).

Is it any wonder then, that the early Christians met on the first day of the week to recall and memorialize His suffering death which made their forgiveness possible. (Acts 20.7). May God help us to never forsake or abuse this memorial reminder of our suffering Savior as we proclaim His death until He returns. Amen?

Upcoming Dates to Note:

- **Potluck** – Sunday, March 9th, immediately after the morning service.
- **Monthly Men's Business Meeting** – Immediately after the potluck.
- **Men's Breakfast** – Saturday, March 22nd @ 7:30 AM at Big Boy's followed by Bible Study in the fellowship hall.

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study (02/09) – 19
Sunday Morning Service (02/09) – 33
Sunday Evening Service (02/09) – 13
Mid-week (02/12) – 12

Statistics:

Contribution Last Week (02/09) - \$967
Average Contribution (per week, up to 02/09) – \$973
2014 Weekly Contribution Goal – \$1015

Remembrance in prayer:

- **Betty Navin** – ongoing health issues.
- **Ashley Veatch** – (Tom & Kristine's daughter) her health and the baby. Due date is this week.
- **Sami Knepley** – recovering from wrist surgery
- **Kristine Haddox** – severe Bell's palsy
- **Melva French** – (Cheryl French's mother)
- **Karen** – (Mae's daughter)
- **Tim Brown** – (friend of Carl's) diagnosed with live cancer
- **Justin Fiszer** – (friend of Haddox's) finally home after receiving 7 units of blood.

Baptized Into Christ We were so pleased to witness Ronnie Green put on the Lord last Sunday. Here is his information for your directory:

Ronnie Green
18225 Berkshire Drive
Gregory, MI 48137
(734) 649-2471

Project: Any Soldier

Don't forget to take a look at the bulletin board about this. It will be constantly updated with news from the soldiers we are helping. There are plenty of opportunities to help. See what you can do.