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Sunday Morning Prayer Service...8:20AM  
Sunday School...9:45 AM...Sunday Morning Service...11:00 AM

Wednesday Evening Bible Study & Prayer...7:00 PM  
Choir Practice Following

## November 29, 2020



**Welcome to our visitors!** Our deepest desire is to bring glory to God through lives changed by the powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ. We pray that our church will be a place where you can experience the love of God.

### THROUGH DECEMBER - 11:00 WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY

Our congregation will continue only meeting for Sunday Morning Worship service (11:00 AM) through December. Our ministry leaders encourage distancing 6 feet apart and wearing of masks.

### ZOOM BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS AT 7:00 PM

A reminder that Pastor Gary is leading a Bible Study Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 on **Zoom**. Contact either Pastor Gary or Pastor Glenn with your email address and you will receive the Zoom meeting link in advance each week. Those some distance away are welcome to take part.

### REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE

There are families around us who are in need. You may help them by donating either non-perishable food items or personal care items (e.g. soap, toothpaste, deodorant, cleaning supplies, etc.). A box will be in the foyer through the end of December for collection of such items. You also may arrange with the Drydens to drop off items at the parsonage. Contributions will be delivered to needy church members and/or to area food banks. Thanks for giving!

### THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS DINNER HAS BEEN CANCELED

It is with regret this announcement is made that due to the COVID-19 threat our Christmas Dinner will be canceled.

### NEXT SOUL FOOD SATURDAY – WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP THIS COMING SATURDAY, DEC. 5, 9:00 – 10:30 AM ZOOM MEETING

*Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come!  
Let Earth Receive Her King!  
Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room  
and Heaven and Nature Sing!*

Season's Greetings Sisters! It is said that music is a universal language. Local Jazz Artist, Mrs. Tacha Coleman Parr, and family, along with Amaria Chrysllyn Camille Jones will be communicating with us in song about the most wonderful time of the year! On Soul Food Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 to 10:30 AM, we will be blessed with a Christmas Concert.

This has been an unbelievable year in many ways, but God has remained just as believable! Prepare your favorite snack and beverage and then prepare to receive a blessing! See you there!

A zoom link and password will be emailed to you in a separate gentle reminder email. Email [cj2658068@gmail.com](mailto:cj2658068@gmail.com) or call at 202-718-7042 to be sure you are on the distribution list for the Zoom Meeting link. Please download the Zoom app in advance of the meeting time.

#### Psalm 24:1-2

*The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof;  
the world, and they that dwell therein.  
For he hath founded it upon the seas,  
and established it upon the floods.*

### PLEASE BE PRAYING REGARDING THOSE TO SERVE IN ELECTIVE AND APPOINTED OFFICES

In the foyer you will find forms to indicate your interest in one or more of the elective or appointed offices of the church. These offices are to be filled at our Annual Business Meeting in February. Please return the form to Pastor Dryden by Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### SAVE THE DATE – ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING Sunday afternoon, February 7, 2020, 2:00 PM.

Your participation in the business of our congregation is important and a part of your stewardship. Take advantage of this opportunity.

### SCRIPTURE:

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;  
Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,  
and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 KJV

**(Please turn to the back of the bulletin....)**

## THOUGHT:

"It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air."

- W. T. Ellis

# Christians, Let's Honor the President

<https://www.crosswalk.com/blogs/russellmoore/christians-lets-honor-the-president.html>

## Russell Moore [Edited for 2020]

The American people have decided that Joe Biden should [be President]. How should Christians respond to our future president?

Many of us have some disagreements with the [president-elect]. As a conservative Christian, I believe unborn children have certain inalienable rights, including the right to life, and I wish [President-Elect Joe Biden] would work to protect them. I believe freedom of conscience is the preeminent right in a civil society, and . . . incursions on religious liberty are troubling. . . . .

We are going to disagree with the president on some (important) things; there will be other areas where we can work with the president. But whether in agreement or disagreement, we can honor. Honor doesn't mean blanket endorsement.

I am always amazed by those Christians who will dispute the command to honor, arguing that "kings" in our system are the people, and therefore we're called to honor the Constitution but not elected officials. But the Scripture doesn't command honor simply for the ultimate authority (which is, of course, ultimately God, in any case). Humanly speaking, the ultimate political authority in the New Testament context was the emperor. And yet, the Apostle Peter specifically calls the people of Christ not only to show submission to the emperor "as supreme" but also to "governors" (1 Pet. 2:13-14). The Apostle Paul calls on the churches to pray and to show thanksgiving for "kings" (plural) and for "all who are in high positions" (1 Tim. 2:1-2).

Paul imitated this when he showed due respect to the governor Felix, referring to him with the honorific title "his Excellency, the governor" (Acts 23:26) and "most excellent Felix" (Acts 24:2), even as he appealed his way up through the political process of the Roman Empire of his time. Paul showed thanksgiving for Felix, despite his part in a system with which Paul disagreed at some important points, for his "reforms" for the common good (24:3).

Behind that is a more general command to "honor everyone" (1 Pet. 2:17), to pray for "all people" (1 Tim. 2:1). We are to not only pay our taxes but give "respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed" (Rom. 13:7).

Christians, above all people, should pray for and show respect for our president and all of our elected officials. After all, unlike those who see politics as ultimate, we recognize that our political structures are important, but temporal, before an inbreaking kingdom of Christ. We don't then need to be fomented into the kind of faux outrage that passes for much of contemporary political discourse. And, unlike those who see history as impersonal or capricious, we see behind everything a God who is sovereign over his universe.

So let's pray for [President-Elect Joe Biden]. Let's not give ourselves to terms of disrespect, or every crazy conspiracy theory that floats across the Internet.

That doesn't mean slavish obedience. In a democratic republic, the president and the Congress govern by the consent of the governed. We appeal to our elected officials, and lobby them for the common good, expressing disagreement when we must. But we do this, as Paul does before Felix and Agrippa, with respect and honor, even as he seeks to persuade them of the need for religious liberty and as he preaches "righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment" (Acts 24:25).

However we voted in the election, let's pray for God to bless our president. We can pray for him to be granted wisdom and health. We can pray that God would prosper his good ideas, and change his mind on his bad ideas. Moreover, we can teach our children to respect our president, starting with referring to him as "President-Elect Joe Biden" or "our president," not as "Biden" or "the guy our parents voted against" or what have you.

There's a time to vote. There's a time to campaign. And there's a time to petition. But, through it all, let's be the people who, even as we speak with conviction, are marked by kindness and respect. When we have to differ with President-Elect Joe Biden, let's do that, with backbone. But let's make sure we do all this with honor, with respect, with prayer, and, most of all, with love.

Let's render unto Caesar, as free people with natural rights. Because we know as believers that we will eternally say "Jesus is Lord," we can as citizens temporally say, "Hail to the chief."

 **The Community Church of God** 

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