



November 9, 2025

22nd Sunday after Pentecost



Rev. Bob Nolan, Pastor
Walter Sage, Organist & Choir Director
Tanya Crowley, Office Administrator

November 9, 2025

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude

Walter Sage

Welcome & Announcements

- **Shepherds will meet after our service next Sunday, Nov 16.**

Invocation (unison)

Lord of light and hope, be with us this day as we have gathered to hear your word. Help us open our hearts to the commandments to love, even when loving is difficult. Give us the courage to be people who will commit their whole lives to your service. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. **AMEN.**

***Opening Hymn**

"It Is Well with My Soul"

No. 493

***Call to Worship (Inspired by Psalm 65)**

One: Our hearts are lifted toward God.

Many: God created all that is!

One: We celebrate that great love of God.

Many: God gifted us with God's only son, Jesus the Christ.

One: Rejoice and be glad today!

Many: Our hearts and spirits praise God for all God's blessings. AMEN.

***Gloria Patri**

No. 623

Anthem

"To Believe"

CBC Choir

words & music by Matthew Evancho, arr. by Heather Soirensen

Children's Message

Marilyn Rodriguez

2 As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, siblings beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, siblings, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Have there been moments in your life when you just want to give up. The problems you are facing does not seem to square with the word of God. Perhaps well-meaning people have tried to comfort you with the word of God, but the truth does not speak to you at all.

In your life struggles, the truth does not seem sufficient at all. You believe that you need to cast your anxieties to God because God cares for you and you tried, but

- your anxieties do not go away
- your life situation has not changed
- your desperation grows day by day
- your prayers seem to be met with silence

What do we do in times like this? How do we speak truth to someone who is going through moments like this?

Reading our scripture today, The believers in Thessalonica were going through great difficulties, life was hard and persecution was rampant. Despite their circumstances, they had been commended by Paul for their work of faith, their labor of love and their steadfastness in hope. Paul had written to them and encourage them to the return of heart of Christ and the hope of future glory.

Anchored on this hope, they were probably waiting with eager anticipation for the return of the Lord, hoping it would be soon and their suffering would end. So, imagine how they felt when in the midst of their persecution, someone using the name of Paul told them that Christ has already come...

- Perhaps they felt devastated because if Christ has already come and their situation has not change, it could only mean that the promises given were not true.
- Perhaps the hope they had clung to is nothing but an illusion.

It is like being a survivor in the shipwreck drifting in a lifeboat and struggling with a violent storm while waiting for rescue. Then, they hear a rescue coming in their direction only for it to past them by and leaving them abandoned in the ocean. Whatever ounce of hope they had now gone.

This is how the Thessalonians must have felt when they heard Christ has already come. If Jesus had already returned and yet the persecutions are still ongoing, it might have only meant to them that Jesus would be unable to deliver them from their persecutions. Therefore, their faith in Christ was of no value and their hope was meaningless.

This is one of the reasons why Paul saw the urgency to write to them shortly after his first letter. His aim was

- to address the fallacy that Christ has already come
- to assure them that God is in control over all things
- to assure them of their salvation
- to encouraging them to stand firm and hold fast to the word of God.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17, the "heart of God" is revealed through a balance of God's **sovereignty, love, grace, and righteous judgment**. The passage offers comfort and reassurance to the believers in Thessalonica and others facing persecution, emphasizing that God is in complete control of all end-time events and their ultimate salvation is secure.

Key aspects of God's heart and actions revealed in this passage include:

- **Love and Election (v. 13):** The passage highlights God's saving love for people, who are chosen "as the first fruits for salvation" through the Spirit and belief in the truth. This choice is rooted in God's grace from the beginning.
- **Purpose and Calling (v. 14):** God calls believers through the gospel so they "may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ". God's purpose is to bring us into eternal union and glory with Christ, providing hope amidst suffering.
- **Comfort and Encouragement (vv. 16-17):** The passage concludes with a prayer that God, "who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word". This reveals God's tender heart, providing peace, strength, and hope to His children.

In essence, God's heart in 2 Thessalonians 2 is that of a loving Parent who saves us, provides us comfort in chaos, and will ultimately bring us justice and eternal glory.

To understand the heart of God, I invite you to consider these key aspects:

- **Love:** God's essence is unconditional love for all creation.
- **Compassion:** God shows deep empathy and care for human suffering.
- **Justice:** God desires fairness and righteousness in the world.
- **Mercy:** He offers forgiveness and grace to those who seek it.
- **Faithfulness:** God remains steadfast and true to His promises.
- **Holiness:** His nature is pure and set apart from sin.

The heart of God is a multifaceted revelation of God's love, justice, mercy, faithfulness, holiness, and joy. Through Scripture, we are invited to know and align our hearts with the heart of God to foster a deeper relationship through the Jesus-way. God's heart is that your heart will align with God. Through this divine alignment, you can embrace your identity in Christ and become who God created you to be.

Jesus wants to be more than your Savior. Jesus also wants to be the Lord of your heart. When Jesus reigns in your heart, it will unlock the doors and open them to your intended purpose in life. You will become free to live the life God intended for you. Thank be to God for the divine heart that welcome us to living in the Jesus-way. Amen

Hymn

"Near to the Heart of God"

No. 497

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Lord, we thank You that Your love for us is not a mere afterthought but was woven into the very fabric of creation from the beginning. You knew us before we were formed in our mother's womb, and in Your infinite wisdom, You called us to be Yours. Thank You for setting apart those who are beloved of the Lord. What an honor it is to be counted among those whom You cherish and seek to save.

Sharing our Joys & Concerns

Words of Grace

Pastor Bob

Even when we are overwhelmed by our thoughts of life after death, God shares hope. May God's grace transform us here in this world as we build the Realm of God here on earth and pray in the words Jesus gave us...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering & Offertory

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Bob

God is calling us to care for our communities and churches. By using our talents, treasures, and time, we may seek to build safety and sanctuary for all. Let us celebrate our morning offering.

Offertory Meditation

Walter Sage

***Doxology**

No. 625

*Praise God from whom all blessing flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication. (Haggai 2:1-9)

Faithful God, the One who stands with us in ruins and renewals alike, may your compassionate care continue to rain down on us. As we bring our offerings, we remember not only what it was, but we dare to believe in what it will be. You are our strength when we falter, our vision when the future feels uncertain. Use these gifts to rebuild your beloved community—not only in stone and structure, but in lives made whole, relationships restored, and justice pursued. May your peace dwell richly in what we offer and how we live, that the glory of this house—the people called by your name—might truly shine. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

"Peace Like a River"

No. 498

Benediction

Pastor Bob

May the Christ of Hope lead us to righteousness and justice,
May the Spirit of Strength fill our hearts with courage,
May God, our Joyful Creator, graciously settle our hearts with peace.
May we find ourselves on journeys seeking glimmers of paradise and the presence of the Divine among us. Amen.

Benediction Response *"Spirit of the Living God"*

*Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me.
Melt me, Mold me, Fill me, Use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me.*

Postlude

Walter Sage

WELCOME TO CBC

Welcome to Central Baptist Church. Please join us following the service for coffee hour in Clarke Hall.

If you have questions about our congregation, please speak with our deacons.

Children may leave for Sunday school after the service's children's time.

We now have a nursery! Please sign up to take a turn.

The sign-up sheet is in the parlor.

Please check in with the church office you need to use Clarke Hall or fellowship hall for set-ups and clean-ups for any or all church events.

THIS WEEK AT CBC

Exercise with us!

This Fun group meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8:30 to 9:30 at Clarke Hall. We use various exercise videos appropriate for all levels. We start with a gentle warm-up, walk about two miles, then cool down, followed by gentle stretches. Sometimes we use light weights and floor mats (provided). Questions? Contact Ellen Greene at 932-8288 or en707@cox.net

Community Chair Yoga (free)

Classes are In Person Mondays | 1:00 - 2:00 pm with Susan.

** Free for all Jamestown Pantry Participants and to the CBC congregation

** open to all Jamestown residents for free too

** Pre-registration appreciated at shriyoga.org

LOOKING AHEAD AT CBC

CBC Christmas Fair

The Christmas fair will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 6th.**

The funds from last year went to the general budget, so this has now become an all-church fair, and our only fundraiser this year. We hope you can help make this year's fair a success.

Gift Baskets

Please help us with gift baskets for the Christmas fair. There is a sign-up sheet for the type of gift basket you would like to donate in the parlor. There are baskets in the parlor to choose from to put your donated items in, or you can also use one you have. Fill the basket with the donated items. There is no need to make it pretty and wrap it. We will organize it and wrap it up. If you like wrapping your own basket that is great. Please include a list of what is in your basket. Thank you! We need volunteers to chair the Christmas table, craft table, and help co-chair the gift baskets. We need people to help with setup and clean up.

We will have a sign-up sheet for the bake table and for volunteers to work on the day of the fair.

Everyone is invited to help make wreaths on **Sunday, Nov. 30** after church. Any questions please see Jill Dolce.... Thank you!!

Little Dresses

The mission of "Little Dresses for Africa" is to provide relief to African children, by distributing home-made dresses to little girls, primarily in African villages, but also other countries in crisis. These meetings will be on the last Thursday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Clarke Hall.

CBC CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Nov. 9

29:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, Nov. 10

1:00 p.m. Chair Yoga

Tuesday, Nov. 11

Church Office Closed

Thursday, Nov. 13

8:30 a.m. Exercise with us!

Sunday, Nov. 16

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Shepherds Meeting

Monday, Nov. 17

1:00 p.m. Chair Yoga

Tuesday, Nov. 18

8:30 a.m. Exercise with us!

Sunday, November 2nd Attendance: 52

CBC COFFEE HOUR

We are looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday Coffee hour following the worship service. There are instructions for setting up & clean up are near the back of the sink. You have the choice to provide snacks or not. If anyone is interested, please sign up, the sign-up sheet in Clarke Hall kitchen.

THE JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

A nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting food insecure Jamestown residents. Central Baptist Church supports the mission of the JCFP by providing the space for the food pantry's operations. Additionally, CBC has an ongoing nonperishable food collection that is donated to the JCFP monthly. During **November**, the food pantry needs Cans of gravy, Cans of cranberry saucy, Bread/muffin mixes, Stuffing mix. Donations can be placed in the basket in the church parlor.

November Birthdays

Marilyn Dennis	Nov. 3
Laurel Champlin	Nov. 22
Tanya Crowley	Nov. 28

**If you would like your birthday or anniversary recognized,
Please contact: Ellen Greenby phone 401-932-8288
by email: en707@cox.net**

Special Thank you....

The Jamestown Community Food Pantry would like to thank the Congregation for their continued support of the Food Pantry. Your generous donations over the last 5 months has amounted to more than 200 pounds of groceries which were distributed to our Jamestown neighbors. The JCFP Board truly appreciates your help in caring for our Community.

Our many thanks,
JCFP Board

CBC PRAYERS

- Marsha Brome said she is so blessed to have our church as her family. Many thanks for all the cards, food & positive thoughts after her back

operation.

- Peggy asked for prayers for her friend Cheryl. She was just diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
- Pam prays for her cousin Patty White. She has liver cancer & only has a couple of months to live.
- Claudia prays for her dear sister who is struggling with alcoholism & anyone else who is struggling with it.
- Marsha Gutierrez prays for her niece Lynn who has brain cancer. She is now showing signs of cognitive decline.
- Donna Gavin prays for 3 friends who are struggling with cancer.
- John Andrews prays for his friend Oleks. He was on duty in Russia when a missile blew up close by. He was stunned & may have a concussion. Also, prayers for his safety.
- John also said Don Carlson would like prayers for Jacob Hopkins. His dad was Don's dear friend from camp Yawgoog who passed away last year. Jacob was in a serious car accident on Tuesday evening. He was on the side of Route 146 by his broken-down auto when a drunk driver hit him. He's in a medically induced coma. He's had surgery on his shattered ankle & the jury is still out re whether he may have some brain damage. Please pray for his swift & complete recovery.
- Duana asked for prayers for Grafton & his wife along with her family upon the passing of her mother last week. Also, prayers for Marshall. He fell at the house in Jamestown. Didn't break anything but hospital did many scans.

Bulletin Announcements

Please submit announcements for the Sunday bulletin to the church office by 10:00 a.m. on the preceding Wednesday.

Joys & Concerns

If you have a need or a celebration you would like to share, please speak with the pastor, one of our deacons or forward the information to the church office.

Flowers

If anyone would like to honor someone, or as a memorial.

We will have the flower request forms on the table in the parlor and will be placed on the altar on the week of their choosing. Any questions, please contact the church office.

Sermons

If you would like to read the sermons, please check our website or contact the church office.

CHURCH OFFICE

Our office hours: **Monday–Thursday, 11AM to 1 PM**

For administrative needs please call Tanya Crowley, administrative assistant, by calling the office at **423-1651**.

email **cbctanya1@gmail.com**

For pastoral and emergency needs contact the pastor,

Rev. Bob Nolan

Email: **nolan062400@gmail.com** ; Cell: **(401) 339-6134**

Please scan Pastor Bob's QR Code:

<https://blinq.me/rBEICDP63vo4km28A7De?bs=db>



For more information on our church

Please go to:

CBCHURCHJTN.ORG



Central Baptist Church

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CBC website: **www.cbchurchjtn.org**