

Responsive Reading

Acts 15:6-12, 19, 21

The apostles and elders met to consider this question. After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe.

God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us.

He made no distinction between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of the disciples a yoke that neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear?

No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the miraculous signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them.

"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. For Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath."

Anthem

Blessed Are the Pure and Merciful

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.
And blessed are the peacemakers; blessed shalt they be.
They shall be called the children of God.
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for they shall be satisfied.
And blessed are the merciful. His mercy shall be with them
shining down upon the children of God.
Be thou exceeding glad and rejoice, for great is your reward
in Heaven. Hosanna Amen.

Sermon Resources

Comparison of Christianity and Judaism

Christianity has a close relationship with Judaism, both historically and theologically. Jesus, the twelve disciples, and the members of the earliest Christian churches were all Jews. Jesus' followers believed him to be the Messiah, a Jewish figure predicted in the Jewish Bible. Despite its Jewish origins, it was not long before Christianity regarded itself as something other than a new Jewish sect. Converts to Christianity were almost exclusively pagans and Christianity moved further away from Judaism.

In the 2,000 year relationship between Christianity and Judaism, it has often been strained. Christians have criticized Jews for rejecting Jesus as their Messiah, and Jews have criticized Christians for corrupting the concept of one God and following a false Messiah. The New Testament reports that Jews were the first to persecute Christians, and after Christians became the more powerful group, they frequently persecuted Jews.

CHRISTIANITY

History & Status

Founders & Early Leaders:

Jesus, Peter, Paul

Adherents Worldwide Today:

2 billion

Major Branches:

Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant

Religious Authority

Scripture:

Bible = Old Testament (Tanakh/Jewish) + New Testament

Modern Human Authority:

Catholic – Pope

Orthodox – Patriarch

Protestant – Christians with the aid of the Holy Spirit

Beliefs & Doctrines

Ultimate Reality:

One God, Jehovah, the God of Abraham

Nature of God:

Trinity – one substance, three persons

Identity of Jesus:

Son of God, God incarnate, savior of the world

Human Nature:

"Original Sin" inherited from Adam – tendency towards evil

Means of Salvation:

Correct belief, faith, good deeds, sacraments (some Protestants emphasize faith alone)

God's Role in Salvation:

Predestination, various forms of grace

Good/Bad Afterlife:

Eternal heaven/hell, temporary purgatory (Catholicism)

View of Judaism:

A true religion, but with incomplete revelation.

JUDAISM

History & Status

Founders & Early Leaders:

Abraham, Moses

Adherents Worldwide Today:

14 million

Major Branches:

Orthodox, Conservative, Reform

Religious Authority

Scripture:

Tanakh = Torah (Law), Prophets, Writings (minor Prophets)

Talmud = rabbinical writings

Modern Human Authority:

Rabbis

Beliefs & Doctrines

Ultimate Reality:

One God, Jehovah, the God of Abraham

Nature of God:

One substance, one person

Identity of Jesus:

False prophet

Human Nature:

Two equal impulses, one good and one bad

Means of Salvation:

Belief in God, good deeds

God's Role in Salvation:

Divine revelation and forgiveness

Good/Bad Afterlife:

Views vary; no afterlife or heaven, eternal Gehenna (death), or reincarnation

View of Christianity:

A false interpretation of Judaism

– "Comparison of Christianity & Judaism." Religious Facts. 2006.

<<http://www.religiousfacts.com>>.

City Church Announcements

Flowers. Today's flowers are in honor of Richard and Rosalyn Wortham's wedding anniversary.

Godly Play. Classes will resume today.

Next Power Sabbath: March 11. This day is noted as "Old Fashion Dress Sabbath" which means we are encouraging as many of the congregation as possible to reach as far back in their closets as possible and find clothes worn in the 1920's and 1930's. Should you wonder what those styles were, you may look at the display in the Narthex or visit our website under "Centennial Celebration." A large participation will add interest and joy to our worship.

Holiday Bags. These are available in the Narthex after the worship service. We ask for a \$5.00 donation per bag. The bags are designed for infants to junior high and are great for parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to use with children during the Lent and Easter season.

Interested in joining a Sign-language Choir? Contact Pastor Denise or the Church Office, or mark a pew card and place it in an offering plate.

Glendale Academy Concert. The Glendale Academy Band, Jazz Band, Chorale, and Vocal Octet proudly present, "All Jazzed Up!" today at 7:00 p.m., Hollywood Forest Lawn, Liberty Hall. Proceeds benefit the GAA Music Department. Tickets are \$10 Adults, \$5 Students K-12.

Churches Without Walls

CROP Hunger Walk

Help stop hunger by joining other walkers on a 5K walk Sunday, March 12, 2006, 1:00 p.m. Walk begins at the Incarnation Church in Glendale. CROP WALKS raise money for local and international hunger-fighting agencies. Contact your church office if you would like to be a WALKER and raise money for this worthy cause, or if you would prefer to DONATE.

Mark Your Calendar

Today

March 11—"Old Fashion Dress Sabbath"

Elder of the Day
Anoosh Keshishzade

Guest Speakers:
Elders Dart & Paytee

Sunset tonight – 5:50 p.m. Sunset next Friday – 5:56 p.m.

Order of Worship

10:50 am – 12:10 pm

Prelude "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" *J.S. Bach*

Entering of the Light Tyler & Victoria McRae

Morning Hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" No. 154

Call to Worship Mitchell Henson

We have gathered to worship;
to listen
to covenant
to praise your name
to remember our heritage
to celebrate our destiny.

Oh God, we joyfully receive your grace

Gifts of the Congregation Michael Quishenberry

Anthem "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?" *arr. J. Miller*

Worship in Giving

Morning Offering Anoosh Keshishzade

Offertory "You Raise Me Up" *Rolf Lovland*

D. J. Pick, *soloist*

Children's Sermon Denise Kasischke

Greeting & Prayers of the Congregation Mitchell Henson

Prayer Response

*Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, oh hear us when we pray,
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
Hear, oh hear us when we pray.*

Scripture Daisy Bolduc

Anthem "Blessed Are the Pure and Merciful" *J. Kunz*

Sermon "Short-cut to Heaven" Mitchell Henson

Blessing & Sending

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.

Postlude "Grand Choer" *Dubois*

Sabbath School Options

Class	Age	Location	Symbols/Leaders
Beginners	0-3 yrs	Room 3	Elephant
Kindergarten	3-5 yrs	Room 4	Giraffe
Primary	6-9	Room 2	Eagle
Junior	10-13 yrs	Room 1	Lion
Teen	14-18 yrs	Room 10b	Fish
Open Door	19-99 yrs	Youth Center	
Armenian	General	Room 11	
Romanian	General	Room 13	
Pastor	General	Fellowship Hall	Mitchell Henson
SS Quarterly	General	Chapel	

Worship Options

Option	Location	Sequence
Sanctuary Service	Main Sanctuary	Every Sabbath
Romanian Service	Chapel	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Armenian Service	Chapel	2nd and 4th Sabbaths

Activities

Event	Location	Sequence
Bell Choir	Youth Center	Friday at 8:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	Sabbath at 9:15 am
Pathfinders	GAMC Gymnasium	Tuesday at 6:45 pm
Sunshine Singers	Room 10b	Sabbath at Noon
Bible Study	Council Room	Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Church Directory

Pastors

Mitchell Henson, Senior Pastor
Denise Kasischke, Family & Children Ministries
Michael Quishenberry, Pastor of the Parish
Hovik Sarrafian, Armenian Senior Pastor
Vartkes Azadian, Armenian Associate Pastor
Constantin Balan, Romanian Senior Pastor

Officers

Head Elder	Douglas Schultz
Head Deacon	Skip Foster
Head Deaconess	Eleanor Posner
Church Board Chair	Robert Marsh
Sanctuary Choir Director	Brenda Mohr
Organist	Kemp Smeal
Children's Choir Director	Lissie Quishenberry
Bell Choir Director	Ariel Quintana
Secretary	Victoria Lucero
Treasurer	Dean Vendouris
Church Clerk	Mindi Rub
A+ School Principal	Anoosh Keshishzade
Pathfinder Leader	Warren Dale

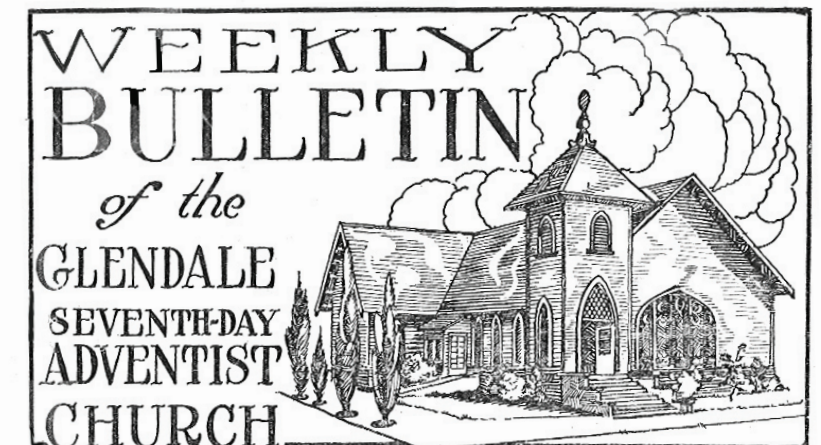
Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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One Hundred Years of Grace 1906 - 2006

"The Heavens Are Telling"
1920 - 1930



ISABEL STREET AT CALIFORNIA

A Bulletin logo from the 1920's

In 1919, the Church buliding we purchased in 1911, was moved a second time to its present location, with some expansions. It became a 600 person church, and still growing.

The Covenant

March 4, 2006