

*Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal*

## *The Lord's Day Message*

**“In Christ - Where?”**



**Welcome Brothers and Sisters!**

**Jordan** will lead our **Bible Class**, **Kerry** will lead singing, **Paul McCollum** will deliver the **Message**. May God bless their efforts!

*Our Lord's Day  
Plan...*

~ **Happy Lord's Day** ~

*In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel. Romans 2:16*

***We are praying for you!***

**Virginia Elliott** - for help with her sciatic nerve and knee pain.

**Gwen Yee** - for healing and less pain in her knees.

**Sweeti Parichha** - For better health and her work in the Lords church.

**Don Blackwell** - for strenfth and endurance in his service to the Lord.

**Church of Christ** - for strength to preach God's Word to all souls.

~**God's Blessings to Everyone!**~

**‘ASLSP’**  
Andy Baker

Let me start off by saying that 20th century classical music is, by and large, “weird.” John Cage, a late 20th century composer, wrote an 8-page organ piece called “Organ2/ASLSP.” The “ASLSP” means “play it as slow as possible.” Usually this organ piece takes more than an hour to complete. Yet, in 2009, an organist played the piece for 14 hours and 56 minutes. In 2022, the piece was played for over 16 hours. Not to be outdone, a custom organ was built in Halberstadt, Germany to play this piece. The performance on this custom organ began in 2001 and will not end until the year 2640 (an estimated 639 years). This is notable because on February 5th of this year, the organ piece changed chords for the first time in two years! How exciting for the listeners, I think.

I wonder if we treat our spiritual life and disciplines like this organ piece—“as slow as possible.” When knowing that we need to change behaviors and habits, we want to hold on to the old just a little longer and try to milk the patience of God in not changing right now (cf. 2 Peter 3:9).

I wonder if we don't look at the end of our faith and move with urgency and diligence to get to that end of being spiritually mature, thus we move “as slow as possible” (cf. Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Peter 1:3-8).

I wonder if we treat church work as elders, deacons, preachers, and members as if it is not imperative to move with purpose and so churches end up moving “as slow as possible.” One preacher described the church work where he was as, “waiting on snails” (cf. Romans 12:10-13).

I wonder if we treat the church's obligation to reach the lost as something that can happen tomorrow and so we end up moving “as slow as possible.” We treat our friends and neighbors, family, and coworkers as an “I'll-get-around-to-sharing-the-gospel-with-them-sometime” prospect and therefore we procrastinate until it's too late (cf. 2 Cor. 6:1-2).

The God of Heaven is, of course, not John Cage. What He tells us to do, He tells us to do “diligently, urgently, fervently, zealously” because there IS an end coming. The hour is late. What we spend so much time lazily approaching, God

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counsels us, compels us, and implores us to get busy doing, growing, and maturing (2 Peter 3:18; Revelation 22:20).

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**Are We Like Christ?**  
Harry Middleton

Some years ago, Brother G. F. Raines wrote about a young Buddhist who had made a very careful study of the life of our Lord said to a Christian: “Your Christ is wonderful, oh, so wonderful; but you Christians, you are not like him.” Could it be that the Christian was left speechless by the accusation, because the force of the young Buddhist’s remark lies in the fact that he almost “hit the nail on the head”?

Christ was a prayerful man (Luke 6:12); but too many “Christians” pray either infrequently or not at all. If we were like Christ, we would continue “instant in prayer” (Romans 12:12).

Christ came “to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10); but do we “Christians” lose any sleep because of the impending fate of the lost?

Christ’s primary concern was his “Father’s business” (Luke 2:49); but the work of the Lord is the thing about which many “Christians” are least concerned.

Christ had no place “to lay his head” (Matthew 8:20); but too many “Christians” are so fond of luxuries that they will not contribute liberally for the propagation of God’s will.

Christ fervently prayed that Christians might be “made perfect in one” (John 17:23; cf. 11:20-22); but too many “Christians” bite, devour and consume one another.

A certain lady accurately expressed what real Christianity is when she said: “Christianity is putting Christ on inside, then letting him show on the outside.”

March 3, 2024



**Meeting Days and Times**

**Sunday ..... 9:00 am**

**Wednesday (via Zoom) ..... Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:00 pm**

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