



**SERVICE TIMES:**

Sunday : 9:30 AM  
10:30 AM  
5:00 PM  
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

**ELDER**

Todd Cox Jimmy Griffith  
Travis Everett Paul White

**DEACONS:**

Derek Anderson Bret Cox  
James Dow Patrick Gaughan  
Ryan Griffith Dan Harbin  
Craig Hecht Danny Meek  
Skyler Meek Phil Parker  
Jay Silvers Jason Stannard  
Travis Starling Bryan Tacker  
Steve Turquette Eric Wise

**EVANGELIST**

Paul White

CEDAR PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST



God's work in God's way  
cedarparkchurchofchrist.org

March 14, 2021

**Jesus Wept**

During our lifetime, we will be confronted with trials and struggles that will sometimes test us beyond measure. Does Jesus care when we suffer, carry a heavy burden in this life, or mourn the loss of a loved one??? Yes! We have a loving Savior, who truly cares, when we are hurting and all else seems to fail us. We learn as much from the death of Lazarus.

*"Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!" John 11:32-36*

We learned at an early age, this is the shortest verse in the Bible: "*Jesus wept.*"

Jesus is our good shepherd! He showed heartfelt compassion, because He, too, suffered while in the flesh (Heb. 5:8) Yes, He cares! Jesus so loved His sheep (disciples) that He was willing to lay down His life for the flock. "*I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep*" - John 10:11

As children of God, we never carry our burdens alone. When the load seems too great, thanks be to Him, God, who provides a way of escape for us!

*"Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you," Psalm 55:22*

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This message was further strengthened in 1901 when Frank Graeff wrote this hymn:

***Does Jesus Care***

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained  
Too deeply for mirth or song,  
As the burdens press,  
And the cares distress,  
And the way grows weary and long?  
O yes, He cares, I know He cares,  
His heart is touched with my grief;  
When the days are weary,  
The long night dreary,  
I know my Savior cares!

When the road becomes too difficult, when trials seem too great, we serve a God who mercifully provides us with strength and a place of refuge. Cast your cares upon Him! In fact, God has commanded us to ask Him to lift our heavy burdens. And He has promises to provide relief.

*"...The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7*

As heavy as our burdens may be at times, seemingly unbearable, imagine how hopeless we would be, if we didn't have the comfort and strength that comes from our God through our faith. God is our refuge and strength. Thanks be to Him for providing us with strength and a place of refuge to escape when we are burdened and weary. In our Lord we can always find mercy and help in times of need. We are comforted in knowing that our God cares for us and will take care of us.

*<sup>14</sup> Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:14-16*

A hymn from the 1930s was written by Thomas A. Dorsey. I've heard it sung in worship services my whole life. It is apparent in the words, that the burden this songwriter carried was overwhelming.

**Precious Lord, Take My Hand**

Precious Lord, take my hand  
Lead me on, let me stand  
I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm lone.  
Through the storm, through the night  
Lead me on to the light  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.  
When my way grows drear precious Lord linger near  
When my light is almost gone.  
Hear my cry, hear my call  
Hold my hand lest I fall.  
Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

Thanks be to God, there is help for us, as we deal with the hardships of life. Our Lord provides us with strength and a place of refuge to turn to, when we are burdened and weary, a God in whom we can always find mercy and help in times of hardship. It matters not how difficult our trial may be, or how weak and inadequate we feel. God is with us, a present merciful help in time of need. *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalm 46:1* When you are feeling weak and tired., think of the spiritual hymn with lyrics written by Johnson Oatman Jr. (1902). Which we have sung many times.

**Higher Ground**

I'm pressing on the upward way,  
New heights I'm gaining every day;  
Still praying as I'm onward bound,  
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."  
Lord, lift me up and let me stand,  
By faith, on Heaven's tableland,  
A higher plane than I have found;  
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."  
My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
Though some may dwell where those abound,  
My prayer, my aim, is higher ground.  
"Lord plant my feet on higher ground."

*"I can do all things through Christ who strengthen me." Phil 4:13*

Danny Pickett