



MANHATTAN CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 10, 2020

WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

- 9.30a – Youth Church – YouTube Live Stream
Led by Jason Isbell
- 10.15a – Face2Face Fellowship – Zoom
- 10.30a – Worship – Zoom & YouTube
Sermon: *Can God Really Be Love?*
Scripture: *1John 4:1-12*
Led by Dr. Thomas Robinson
- 12.15p – Fellowship & Prayer – Zoom

PRAYER

- † Coronavirus and its impact worldwide, the many sorrows and disruptions wrought
- † New school year as students, teachers, and administrators plan for reopening
- † Myriam Edwards son Kurt is undergoing treatment for severe headaches
- † Phyllis Horsley, her health, dental work, and pending eye surgery
- † Recovery: Kimberly Hebert and Julie Short as they continue to heal from surgery
- † Cancer treatment: Qin Wang; Ping Ku; friends of the Masons, Steve, Tim, and Cathy; and friends of Spencer Wan, Cheok, and Leung (age 3)

BIBLE STUDIES

- Sunday 4.00p – *Parables on the Path* – Zoom
Led by Walter Edwards and Kyle Swann
- Wednesday 6.30p – *Reading Acts: Chapter 19* – Zoom
Led by Dr. Thomas Robinson

MINISTRY & MEETINGS

- All meetings held on Zoom unless otherwise noted – Connect through our website
- Monday 7.30p – Book Discussion – *How God Became King*, by NT Wright
Led by Tom Robinson
 - Tuesday 7.15p – Small Group Fellowship – Midtown (alternating weeks)
Led by Emily & Stephen Cahnmann
 - Wednesday 8.00a – Book Discussion – *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, by James H Cone
Led by Matt Henegar
 - Thursday 6.30p – MCOG Health Group
Led by Spencer Wan
 - Thursday 8.00p – Faith Race & Justice
Led by Kyle Swann
 - Friday 6.30p – Small Group Fellowship – New Jersey
Hosted by Simon Smart
 - Friday 7.00p – Small Group Fellowship – Harlem (alternating weeks)
Led by Julie Short
 - Saturday 9.00a – Women’s Prayer Hour
Led by Denise Cherenfant
 - Saturday 10.00a – Community of Hope – Volunteer to serve “Grab & Go” lunches at MCOG
Led by Carl Garrison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebration of Baptism:: We rejoice with the Henegar family over the baptism of Della Jean Henegar on July 25 in California. Della, age 12, has grown up in the faith in our congregation.

Wedding Bells: Sonja and Tom Robinson’s son Thomas married Alison Mirylees on July 31 in Connecticut. Tom Robinson officiated the ceremony with participants around the globe joining in virtually via Zoom..

Wedding Bells: Bethany Schneider’s father Jay, a widower, married Alice Randazzo on August 1. The ceremony was held in her hometown church in New Jersey and also live streamed on YouTube.

CALENDAR

- Aug 16 Sermon: *Abiding in a God of Love*
Scripture: *1 John 4:13-21*
- Retreat 2020 Virtual plans pending, NYC only

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Aug 10 Fabio Botarelli
- Aug 10 Miguel Cañizares
- Aug 12 Emily Gnagey
- Aug 12 Luis Gonzo Gonzalez
- Aug 15 Candace Burton
- Aug 16 Larry Mudd
- Aug 16 Alexandria Sukhdeo

SPANISH MINISTRY

- Led by Angel Reyes – Spanish Minister & Elder
- Monday 7.00p – Small Group Fellowship
Led by Miguel Cañizares
- Saturday 3.00p – Women’s Prayer Group
Led by Elsa Cañizares

WE SEEK TO WORSHIP AND GLORIFY GOD
TO PROCLAIM THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST
TO STUDY AND FOLLOW THE BIBLE
TO CREATE A LOVING, DIVERSE COMMUNITY
TO SERVE PEOPLE IN NEED

Can God Really Be Love?

Thomas Robinson, *Life with a God of Love 7*, August 9, 2020

1 John 4:1-12 Translation TR

¹ Beloved friends, don't keep putting trust in every spirit, but test the spirits whether they have God as their source; because many false prophets have come out into this cosmic system.

² This is how you're coming to recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that affirms that Jesus as Anointed King has come in physical flesh has God as source, ³ and every spirit that doesn't affirm this Jesus is certainly not from God. This is even the spirit of the opponent of the Anointed King. You've heard that it's coming, and now it's already present in the cosmos.

⁴ You yourselves have God as your source, Little Children, and you've been victorious in relation to them; because the one who's in all of you is greater than the one who's in this cosmos. ⁵ They have this cosmic system as their source; therefore, they speak the language that comes from this cosmos, and of course, the cosmos is listening to them.

⁶ Our identity has God as source. A person who's coming to know God listens to what we're announcing, but one who's identity is apart from God doesn't hear us. It's in this way that we come to recognize the Spirit who embodies true reality and the spirit who embodies the delusion.

⁷ Beloved friends, let's love one another, because this love has its source in God; and everyone who's practicing love has been begotten from God and is coming to know God. ⁸ Anyone who's not practicing love simply never came to know God, because God is love.

⁹ This is how the love of God was made clearly manifest among us: God has sent his unique Son, into this cosmic system in order that we may come to life through him. ¹⁰ This is what really defines that love, not that we've loved God, but rather that he himself loved us and sent his son as atonement for our fundamental wrongs (sins).

¹¹ Beloved friends, if God loved us in this way, that means we also have an obligation to practice love toward one another. ¹² No one has ever beheld God; but if we're practicing love toward each other, God is abiding in us, and, in fact, God's love has come to its completed purpose in us.

John 1:14-18

¹⁴ Now the Word became physical flesh and set his tabernacle among us. And here we beheld his glory, a glory such as belongs to the Father uniquely, full of grace and true reality.

¹⁵ John testifies about him and has cried out saying, "This is the one of whom I said, *'The one who's coming after me ranks in front of me because he was first before me.'*"

¹⁶ Because from his fullness as source, we're all recipients, receiving grace on top of grace! ¹⁷ As the Torah was given through Moses, this grace and true reality came to realization through Jesus as Anointed King. ¹⁸ No one has seen God – ever! God alone, whose existence merges into (*eis*) the heart of the Father, that One has made God known.

John 18:33-38

³³ Pilate (left the chief priests and) went back inside the Praetorium. He summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

³⁴ Jesus responded, "Are you asking this on your own, or did others talk to you about me?"

³⁵ Pilate replied, "I'm not a Jew, am I? Your own people and the chief priests handed you over to me. What did you do?"

³⁶ Jesus answered, "My own kingdom doesn't have its source in this cosmos. If my kingdom grew out of this cosmos, my followers would've been fighting so that I wouldn't have been handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my kingdom doesn't have its source here."

³⁷ Then Pilate said him, "So, you're a king, then!"

Jesus responded, "You're the one saying I'm a king. I myself was born for this reason, and it's for this that I've come into the cosmos, that I may bear witness to the true reality. Everyone who's existence is from that truth, hears my voice."

³⁸ Pilate says to him, “What’s truth?” As soon as he said this, he went out again to the Jewish leaders and told them, “I’m not finding any credible charge against him.”

1 John 2:1-2

¹ My children, I’m writing these things to you in order that you not sin. And, if anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus, an Anointed King (*Christos*) who’s completely just. ² And he himself is atonement for our sins, but not for ours alone but also for the whole cosmos.