



## Announcements

December 17, 2023

# Welcome to Lighthouse!

Worship Registration Cards are located in the chair pockets in front of you. Please take time complete them and submit to a greeter or in the offering plate.

You can also go to our website at ***lbfchurch.org*** and complete a Connection Card online.

# Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 17th at Crippsmas Place,  
6pm. We are on the performance schedule!  
Please come out to support! Go to  
[crippsmasplace.org](http://crippsmasplace.org) for info about the location.

Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at Newpark Mall, 5:30-  
6:30pm. We'll post/send info on meeting place  
on the app.







# Missional Communities

**We are currently on break for Christmas and New Years.** We will resume as one group on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at LBF. Check out our website or download the app to find out more.

# Christmas Eve

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**10:30am, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Join us on Christmas Eve at our regular gathering time for a special, worship-heavy service. More singing, praises, scripture reading, and a short Christmas message.





# LBF ALL Church Meeting & Potluck

**TENTATIVELY January 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm**

All LBF covenant partners and regular attenders are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting. We will be discussing important information, including LBF budget, vision and planning for 2024, and other items that pertain to church membership and participation. Bring a dish to share for potluck. Sign-up sheet and event post is not up yet, but will be up posted by next week.







THE BOOK OF  
**HEBREWS**

Hebrews 6:16-7:10  
God's Promises;  
Assured, True, & Eternal!

<sup>16</sup> For **people** swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an **oath** is final for confirmation. <sup>17</sup> So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the **promise** the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an **oath**, <sup>18</sup> so that by **two unchangeable things**, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have **strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.** <sup>19</sup> We have this as a sure and steadfast **anchor of the soul**, a **hope** that enters into the inner place **behind the curtain**, <sup>20</sup> where **Jesus** has gone as a **forerunner** on our behalf, having become a **high**



**priest forever** after the order of Melchizedek.

7 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and **blessed** him, <sup>2</sup> and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is **first**, by translation of his name, **king of righteousness**, and then he is also **king of Salem**, that is, king of **peace**. <sup>3</sup> He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

<sup>4</sup> See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! <sup>5</sup> And those

descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. <sup>6</sup> But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. <sup>7</sup> It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. <sup>8</sup> In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. <sup>9</sup> One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, <sup>10</sup> for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.



<sup>16</sup> For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an **oath** is final for confirmation. <sup>17</sup> So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the **promise** the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an **oath**, <sup>18</sup> so that by **two unchangeable things**, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

**Hebrews 6:**<sup>19</sup> *We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a **hope** that enters into the inner place **behind the curtain,***<sup>20</sup> *where **Jesus** has gone as a **forerunner** on our behalf, having become a **high priest forever** after the order of Melchizedek.*



## BEHIND THE CURTAIN

Recognize access to holiness – God is the definition of holiness

Access to holiness requires recognition of sin, transgression, & filth

Access to holiness requires recognition of mercy, atonement, cleansing

Two Unchangeable Things – 1) God's Promise 2) God's Oath

It is IMPOSSIBLE for God to Lie!

What else in this world would be worthy of our attention and reasonable for refuge?

Our HOPE & ANCHOR is in the HOLY of HOLIES, where now, once and for all, because of our GREAT HIGH PRIEST, we now and always have access behind the curtain!



By way of His **Declaration, Preparation, & Occupation**, Jesus,  
The Christ is our forerunner-

**John 14:**<sup>1</sup> *“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”*

**7** For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, **met** Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and **blessed** him, <sup>2</sup> and to him Abraham apportioned a **tenth part of everything**. He is **first**, by translation of his name, **king of righteousness**, and then he is also **king of Salem**, that is, king of **peace**. <sup>3</sup> He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

Name: Melchizedek = King of Righteousness – Prophet

Title: King of Salem = King of Peace - King

Position: Priest of the Most High God – Priest

Activity: Met, Blessed, Received

Type and shadow of Jesus, The Christ



No prior instructions for apportioning a tithe

No prior instructions for apportioning an offering (Genesis 4)

God is worthy of our sacrificial giving, through His earthly emissaries/churches.

<sup>4</sup> See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! <sup>5</sup> And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to **take tithes** from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. <sup>6</sup> But this man who does not have his descent from them **received tithes** from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

There is no way to convince anyone to tithe, unless such a person wholly trust in The Lord and believes that He alone is worthy to receive one's offering.

Conversely, anyone who does wholly trust in The Lord and knows that God has given them all that they have, cannot be convinced to hold back from offering generously to The Lord.

Somewhere in the hearts of those who do not give is the ill-fated designation, "MINE."



**1 Corinthians 9:**<sup>11</sup> If we have sown spiritual things among you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?  
<sup>12</sup> If others share this rightful claim on you, do not we even more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? <sup>14</sup> In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.

**2 Corinthians 1:20** *For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.*

**Ephesians 1:13** In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

<sup>7</sup> It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. <sup>8</sup> In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. <sup>9</sup> One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, **paid tithes through Abraham,** <sup>10</sup> for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

Individualism is subsumed through federalism (legal), “In Him.”

Representation is not something that we readily or willingly engage.

In fact, the farther away it is or seems, the less likely we are to submit to or even acknowledge any representation that confronts us.



Community is The Lord's gracious solution to our innate tendency towards independence.

THE CHURCH