

Announcements

March 24th, 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 *Ibfchurch.org* and complete a Connection Card online.



# CONFESSION

## Missional Communities

No Meeting this week due to Christ in Passover on Friday.

## Monthly Prayer Meeting

#### Last Monday of every month,

### <u>next on March 25th</u> TOMORROW at 6pm.

Join us as we pray for our nation, state, city, community, church, and loved ones. Meet in the church office. No need to RSVP.



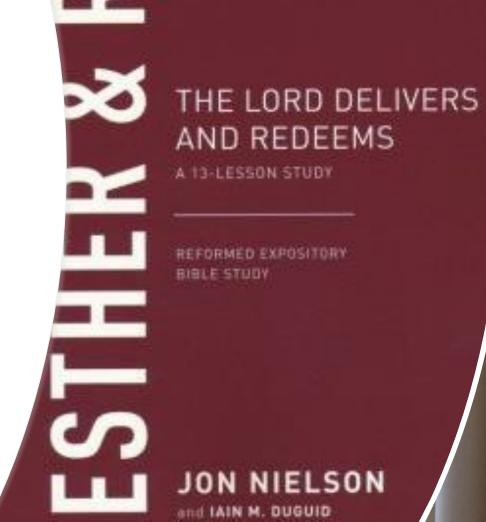
## Sunday School

## Next one is April 7th.

Join us from 9am to 10am **every other week** for Sunday School. We are going through the Heidelberg Catechism. This class is designed for adults. Youth may attend with a parent. Meet in the church office.

### Ladies Discipleship

No Meeting this week due to Christ in the Passover.



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## Christ in the Passover

## Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm

Join us for this special time as we explore how Christ comes alive in the Passover. Please sign up at the welcome center. This event will be open to the public, so we encourage bringing guests and friends. Suggested donation of \$20 per adult OR you can contribute by preparing food dishes/items for the meal. Free for children under 13yr.



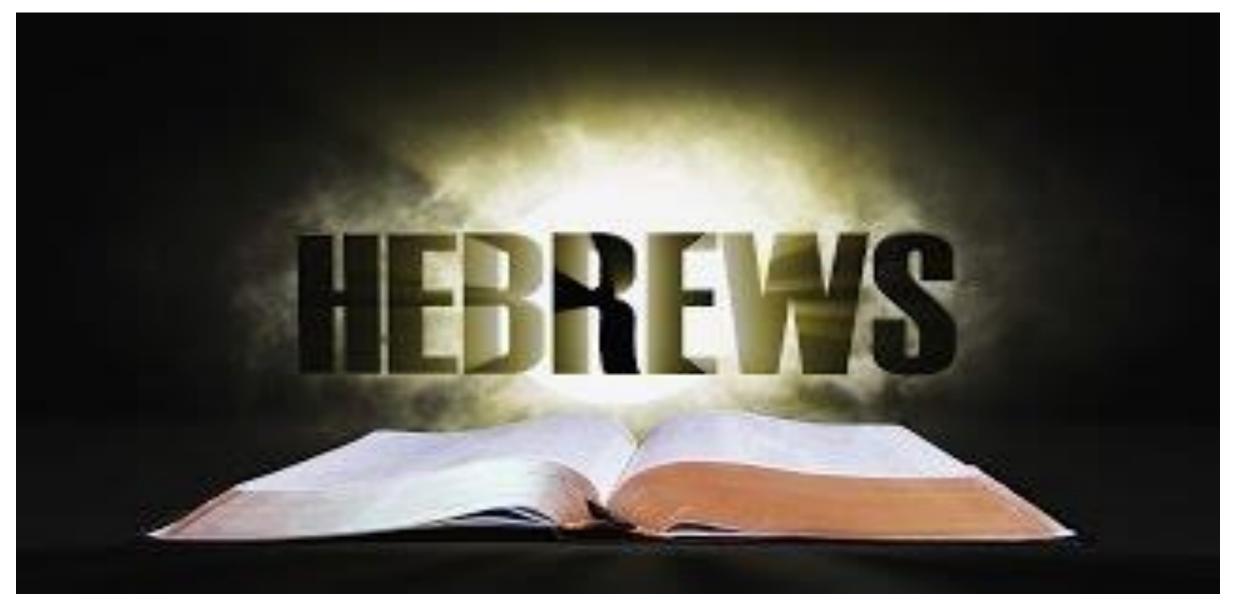
Resurrection Sunday is March 31<sup>st</sup> Invite friends and family to join us as we worship the Lord together.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



## Hebrews 10:19-31; Live By Fear or Faith, In Christ

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have **confidence** to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and **living** way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, <sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup> let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup> Let us **hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the

more as you see the Day drawing near.

<sup>26</sup> For if we go on **sinning deliberately** after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>29</sup> How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has **trampled** underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has **outraged the Spirit of grace**?

<sup>30</sup> For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." <sup>31</sup> It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. <sup>24</sup> And let us **consider how** to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> **not neglecting to meet together**, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging** one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

'not neglecting to meet together,' ...

'as you see the Day drawing near.' ...

**Ephesians 3:7** Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power.<sup>8</sup> To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup> and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, <sup>10</sup> so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

'as you see the Day drawing near.' ...

As You See

## The Day Drawing Near

## There is no ambiguity here. The people of God, collectively, are not to be confused about the times in which they live.

## Judgment upon Jerusalem & The destruction of the Temple

And Apocalyptic or Judgment Language of The Bible

- **Zephaniah 1:**<sup>4</sup> "I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem;
- and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Baal and the name of the idolatrous priests along with the priests,
- <sup>5</sup> those who bow down on the roofs
- to the host of the heavens,
- those who bow down and swear to the Lord
- and yet swear by Milcom,
- <sup>6</sup> those who have turned back from following the Lord, who do not seek the Lord or inquire of him."

<sup>14</sup> The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup> A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Malachi 4:<sup>5</sup> "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

Ezekiel 7:17 All hands are feeble, and all knees turn to water. <sup>18</sup> They put on sackcloth, and horror covers them. Shame is on all faces, and baldness on all their heads. <sup>19</sup> They cast their silver into the streets, and their gold is like an unclean thing. Their silver and gold are not able to deliver them in the day of the wrath of the Lord. They cannot satisfy their hunger or fill their stomachs with it. For it was the stumbling block of their iniquity.

Isaiah 13:<sup>6</sup> Wail, for the day of the Lord is near; as destruction from the Almighty it will come!
<sup>7</sup> Therefore all hands will be feeble, and every human heart will melt.

Isaiah 34:<sup>8</sup> For the Lord has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense for the cause of Zion.
<sup>9</sup> And the streams of Edom shall be turned into pitch, and her soil into sulfur;

her land shall become burning pitch.

Amos 5:<sup>18</sup> Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord?

- It is darkness, and not light,
- <sup>19</sup> as if a man fled from a lion,
- and a bear met him,
- or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
- and a serpent bit him.
- <sup>20</sup> Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

Luke 21:<sup>5</sup> And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, <sup>6</sup> "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." 7 And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" <sup>8</sup> And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. 9 And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

## Jesus Foretells Wars and Persecution

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation," and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup> But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup> This will be your opportunity to bear witness. <sup>14</sup> Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer,

<sup>15</sup> for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your lives.

**Jesus Foretells Destruction of Jerusalem** 

<sup>20</sup> "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. <sup>21</sup> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those

who are out in the country enter it, <sup>22</sup> for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. <sup>23</sup> Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people.<sup>24</sup> They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

## The Coming of the Son of Man

<sup>25</sup> "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup> people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Romans 13:11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

**Revelation 6:**<sup>12</sup> When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, <sup>13</sup> and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. <sup>14</sup> The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. <sup>15</sup> Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, <sup>16</sup> calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on

the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, <sup>17</sup> for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

<sup>26</sup> For **if we go on sinning deliberately** after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup> but a fearful expectation of judgment, and **a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.** 

**2 Corinthians 5:**<sup>6</sup> So we are **always** of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup> Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup> So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

## Confession & Communion

The Lord's Table is a blessed sacrament given to the church as a sign of God's faithfulness to His promises and an assurance in the heart of the one to whom the promises are given.

Lighthouse invites participation in communion to all who are saved by Jesus Christ, baptized in the church, agree with the entirety of The Apostles' Creed, and seek to live in unity with the body of Christ.

If you are either unconverted, unrepentant, or unsure of any of these things, please refrain from participating in The Lord's Supper today, and speak to an Elder, Pastor, or more mature believer after the service to address any concerns

**1 Corinthians 11:**<sup>27</sup> Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

Sílent Prayer & Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In Your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.

## **Our Assurance of Pardon!**

Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

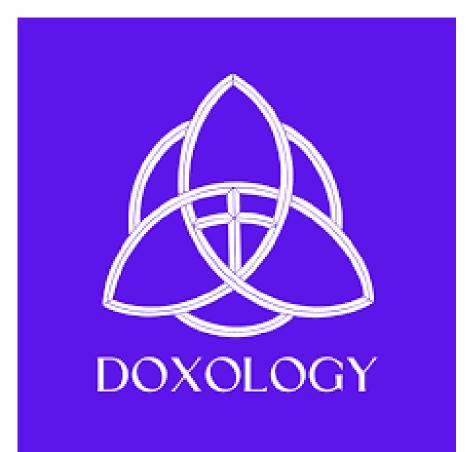
The Body of Christ, together – "Thanks be to God!"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!





**Hebrews 13:**<sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, <sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.