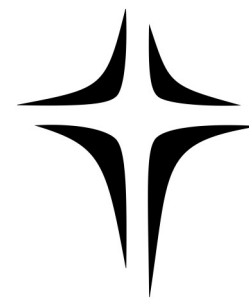


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Westview Church of Christ Greeley, Colorado

August 23, 2026

The Purpose

From here to heaven... Following God wherever He leads us.

Commentary from a common Terry

The great psalm of repentance

(This summary is from II Samuel 12.)

Once David saw his sin clearly, he owned his guilt. His self-image had been clouded by the guilt and the kingly arrogance that had led to his affair with Bathsheba. He had literally used the gift of authority God had given him as king to abuse that power. What was Bathsheba to do? He was the king. This wasn't like our modern day democracy. It was a monarchy. There was one voice of ultimate consequence—the king's. He had used that same control to bring Uriah home to his wife and then send him back to his inevitable death.

When the prophet Nathan pointed at the king and announced, "You're the man!", he reminded David that he was not God. He was not a god. In that moment, he was not even a good king. He had not just failed in military strategy or diplomatic decisions. He had stolen, abused, and killed. Nathan reminded David that *everything* he had and had become was from God. **Everything!**

And then David got it. The smog that polluted his thinking cleared. He heard God and saw himself as he really was. "I have sinned against the LORD." What now? The child born as the result of his sinful relationship with Bathsheba would die. Even though David prayed fervently that it would not happen, it did. Once David learned of the death of his son, "... (he) arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. **And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped.**" II Samuel 12:20

At some point, in the quiet of his private chambers or perhaps in an isolated field, maybe looking at a flock of sheep like the one he used to tend as a boy, he wrote what we know as Psalm 51. The great chapter of repentance.

When we are guilty *and we know it*, there is no better place to land in God's Book. David stripped away the pride and hubris that could come so easily to one who is the king. He did not look left or right (or up) to lay the blame at the feet of someone else. He didn't blame Bathsheba because she was so alluring or because she took a bath. He didn't blame the circumstances ("I should have been at the battlefield.") He didn't blame God for an unfair consequence.

He blamed himself. What a heavy burden to bear, too heavy to carry. So he took it to the LORD.

From the final verses of the chapter, it seems that David had not offered any sacrifices yet to atone for his sin and guilt. *For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.* verse 16 Instead, David brought his own broken and contrite heart as the sacrifice to lay on the altar before the LORD. An animal sacrifice could be offered without remorse, depending on the ritual. A penitent heart could not be giving falsely. By it's very definition, it is seeking the healing only God can give.

When I planned this article, I thought that I would grab the key statements to capture the sentiment of the chapter. But that is a realistic possibility. Virtually every line is significant.

You must read Psalm 51 for this article to carry any weight. It will take you about two minutes, and that's if you read it out loud (which I highly recommend).

I have chosen verses 10-12 as the centerpiece for the last quarter of this article. These words transcend any time, place, nationality, or societal status. They capture the plea of the sinner to the *only* One Who can heal. God doesn't just repair us—he *heals* us.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

David had *lost* what was most important. He had lost a clean heart. He had lost a right spirit. He was fearful of being removed from the very presence of God. He was desperate that God's Holy Spirit remain in him. He had lost the joy that comes from the salvation only God would provide. He had to have God's help to have a steady willing spirit of obedience.

The Presence of God is everything! Being with Him and abiding in Him is the safest, purest, and ultimate place we can be.

And it is there we receive true forgiveness.

Love one another,

Terry

The Men's Coffee this week will meet at Dean Weber's house

This Tuesday, the weekly *Westview Men's Coffee* will meet on the patio at Dean Weber's house. It will be the normal time, from 6 to 8 a.m. (Check with the church office if you need the address.) Dean is also planning to serve up biscuits and gravy with hash browns on the side. We appreciate Dean's hospitality and look forward to Tuesday morning. We encourage all the guys to join us.

The Ladies' Prayer Group will not meet this week

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are thankful you are with us today as we worship our God and Savior. Our prayer is that you will encounter Him today.

A nursery for small children is available in the east hall off the lobby.

What will you experience at Westview?

- **Praise through song.** It is the tradition of our heritage to sing a cappella (without instruments) as we encourage everyone to be involved in uplifting praise.
- We value the **Bible**. You will hear God's Word read and all sermons will give the utmost respect and priority to Scripture.
- We share the **Lord's Supper** every week remembering Christ's sacrifice that provides us forgiveness as we celebrate our salvation through Him.
- **We do not expect our guests to give financially** to our work. We depend on the generous and godly giving of all Westview members to provide the funds needed to implement God's plans for this church.

We invite you to stay for Bible classes following our worship time. We hope you have been blessed today!

Today's Order of Worship

*Great Is the Lord Almighty
Here I Am To Worship*

Meet & Greet

Announcements & Reminders

Prayer

Footprints of Jesus

I Love You, Lord

Sermon

The Invasion:

Is anybody listening?

Amazing Grace

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 26:47-53

Ten Thousand Angels

We Remember Christ's Sacrifice

Contribution Collected

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Jesus Loves Me

Elder blessing/prayer

There's a Fountain Free

Unison Reading:

I John 1:9

Events, opportunities, and reminders:

Memorial for Laurie Hammer will be Tuesday, September 1st

The memorial for Laurie will be on Tuesday, September 1st, at 6:30 p.m. at Westview. We will serve the family a meal before the service, probably around 5 p.m. There will be a reception afterwards so people can visit. We will be coordinating the food for both the meal and the reception with the Windsor congregation. We'll send more information later this week.

The *MSCH Fall Food Drive* is underway

We have received information from the **Mountain States Children's Home** for their fall food drive. That info is printed and in the lobby. You can leave your donation in the lobby in and around the storage bins. We will be collecting through mid-October.

Band of Brothers weekend—Sept. 10th-13th; see Doug Blount for details

Tuesday night singing with the worship leaders—7 p.m. at the building

The Kitchen is CLOSED this week, August 26th

The Kitchen will **NOT** be open this Wednesday, the 26th, at the building.
We will plan to resume preparing burritos for the homeless shelter residents on September 2nd.

Sunday morning classes: The fellowship room class is a verse-by-verse textual study, led by Randy McCrain and Tom Lininger. The class is studying the book of *Hebrews*, taught by Randy.

Terry's class, which meets in room #14, is entitled *The Fortress*. It is based on Psalm 18. Can we actually *experience* the power and protection and guidance of God, moving forward and growing in our faith? We will conclude this study next Sunday, the 30th.

The kids' worship handout is on the table at the back of the auditorium.

Servers for Worship today (23rd)

Scripture Reading Taylor Hegarty
Prayer Todd Zwetzig
Doug Blount (communion prayers)
Taylor Wikum (contribution prayer)
Kim Hegarty
Abner Morales
Ian Sebold
Tyler Wade

The Wednesday night study group
meets at 6:30 in the fellowship room
(studying James).

The 2026 AUGUST handout for
Bible study plans and
strategies is on the counter
in the lobby.

The Westview Men's Coffee is
every Tuesday morning from 6 to
8 a.m. (at Dean's house this week).



The Westview Women's Coffee
is every Wednesday morning
from 9 to 11 a.m. in the
fellowship room.

Thank you from the GFH:

Westview — Thank you for your ongoing support of the Greeley Family House and for providing backpacks and school supplies for our families again this year. Because of your generosity, our students are confident, prepared, and excited for school. We truly could not do this each year without your partnership and commitment to our families. Thank you!

The Greeley Family House



Prayer reminders

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

We do not include personal information, such as the prayer list in our online bulletin. If you would like that information, it is available in the hard copy bulletin at the building. Or, you can contact the church office to receive a copy.