



Westworth Church of Christ

*Worshiping
Serving
Fellowshipping*

WELCOME VISITORS!

Thank you for joining us today to worship the Lord.

If this is your first visit here, please honor us by filling out a visitor's card found on the back of each pew. Your prayer requests may also be made on the flip side of the card. At the close of service you can hand it to any member, place it in the contribution box at the front of the auditorium or simply leave it in the pew and we will collect it.

During the service we will celebrate communion. (Sacraments are available on the table in the entry foyer.) This is a time that we partake of unleavened bread and juice from the fruit of the vine to remind us what Jesus has done for us. Communion is not only about Jesus' death, but his resurrection and triumph over death and sin. His resurrection is the source of our hope that God will fulfill his promise of eternal life through Jesus the Christ.

Address:	5728 White Settlement Road Westworth Village, TX 76114
Office Phone:	817-738-7536
Worship Services:	Sunday 10:00 am
Bible Study:	Wednesday 7:00 pm
Men's Group:	1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
Website:	www.westworthcoc.org
Email:	Westworthchurch@sbcglobal.net
Facebook Group:	Westworth Church of Christ
Trustees:	Curtis Dunson, Brian Flaherty, Eric Kreger, Curtis Thompson

THE 7 LAST DAYS OF JESUS' LIFE

Thursday

Day 6 in the series

Holidays are especially nice when you are not cooking. I remember riding in our family car to my grandmother's ranch in southeastern Colorado every Thanksgiving. Mom and Dad were in the front with the baby while the remaining four siblings jockeyed for position in the back. I remember cars seemed to be more spacious back then and freedom of movement wasn't hampered by seatbelts. I'm sure it was a faster and easier trip than Jesus' trip from Jericho to Jerusalem the previous Saturday. His trip from Bethany to Jerusalem on Thursday was much faster. It probably only took about 20 minutes.

To begin with, let me remind you of the earlier explanation of the Jewish day. The Jewish day began at sundown. So, the Passover Feast (Seder) was held on our Thursday evening.

In Jesus' day Passover was one of three feasts that Jews were required to celebrate in Jerusalem. Josephus indicates that during one Passover the population of Jerusalem increased to 2,500,000 people. I find this difficult to fathom since the population of Fort Worth is close to 960,000. Let me explain. The area of Fort Worth is 350 square miles while Jerusalem had 1 square mile. Even if one counts the towns within walking distance of Jerusalem it would still be difficult to accommodate that many people. However, at that time people used lots of tents. Whether Josephus' number was inflated or not isn't the point. The point is that on Passover Jerusalem was very crowded.

Once again, I will not bring out the spiritual implications of these passages because John alone devotes over five chapters to this five or six hour period. Instead, I will try to put some order to the gospel accounts.

It was probably on Thursday morning that Jesus sent Peter and John (Luke 22:8) to find and prepare the Passover Seder (meal). Most scholars agree this happened in the house of Mary, John Marks's mother (Acts 12:12).

Sometime around 7:30 PM Jesus and the disciples arrived to celebrate the Passover which can't begin until around 8:00 PM, which is

"Thursday" (Continued from page 2)

sundown. The Seder can last from thirty minutes to all night. Obviously, this one would not take all night.

After the Passover Seder started John recorded that Jesus got up and washed the disciples' feet. When this was accomplished, he returned to his place and predicted that one of them would betray him. It was at this point that Jesus indicated to John that the betrayer was Judas. It is odd that the disciples didn't understand (John 13:28-30). Judas left.

For some reason the disciples started arguing about who would be greatest, which is something one would expect at a barroom instead of the Last Supper. Jesus, however, ended the arguing quickly by pointing out that the greatest would be the one who served. He had just illustrated this when he washed their feet. Just as soon as the arguing died down Jesus informed Peter that he would deny Jesus three times before the rooster crowed the next morning.

It is at this juncture that Jesus institutes what we know as the Lord's Supper. Some of the symbolic food and rituals of the Passover Seder are incorporated into the Lord's Supper. But it occurred at the end of the Seder.

John used three chapters to describe Jesus' lessons that came next (John 14-17). Here Jesus answered Thomas', Philip's, and Judas' (not Iscariot) questions about where he was going and what was going to happen. There are also the teachings about the vine and branches, opposition from the world, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the disciple's future joy over the resurrection, and the promise of peace and answered prayer. Finally, Jesus prayed for the disciples and all believers.

After this Matthew and Mark recorded that they sang a hymn. This signaled the end of the Passover Seder.

Jesus then took the disciples to Gethsemane. I don't know how big the group was but there may have been more disciples than those who were apostles. It was probably on the way that he reminded Peter that he would deny Jesus three times. When they arrived Jesus took Peter, James, and John a distance from the rest of the group. It was here, at this time, that John recorded that Jesus' "sweat became like

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drops of blood” while the apostles slept.

When Jesus was praying to God to remove the “cup from me,” Judas appeared with a large contingent of religious leaders and a Roman cohort. How big the Roman cohort was is unknown. A full cohort was about six hundred soldiers, but this was probably less.

During the arrest, Judas identified Jesus with a kiss. John lets us know that when Jesus admitted who he was the arresting crowd “drew back and fell to the ground.” He also lets us know that Peter drew a sword and cut off Malchus’ ear (the high priest’s slave), but that Jesus healed him and told Peter to put away the sword. After this they bound Jesus and took him to the house of Annas. Two apostles follow. They were John, who gives his eyewitness account of the trials and crucifixion, and Peter. John was acquainted with the high priest, which is highly unlikely for the average Jew. We learn that John’s family had servants in Mark 1:20. So, the family of Zebedee was probably wealthy and had influence. The other individual who followed is unnamed. His account is found in Mark 14:51-52. It tells us that when most of the apostles fled a certain individual who was only wearing a sheet was grabbed by the arresting group. He escaped by running out of his clothes. He left the scene naked. Scholars agree that the individual was John Mark.

So, around midnight or soon after most of the apostles were on the run. Peter was standing outside the gate at house of Annas, while Jesus was being questioned and John watched.

David Keller

“SOON”

Beautiful Feet Ministry

Service Day—Saturday, April 15, 2023 - 7:30 am—noon

Everyone is encouraged to take part in this opportunity to serve. There will be a variety of ‘jobs’ for everyone, so even youngsters can participate. Please check your schedules and take this opportunity to be of service. It will be a benefit to your hearts and minds—as well as your soul.

A sign up sheet can be found in the either foyer for those who plan to join the service project at Beautiful Feet ministry in Ft. Worth.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

Tuesday - Westworth Men's Group



All men of the congregation, friends, neighbors and family are invited to join the men's group on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Currently they are looking at concepts and ideas in the book:

IN A PIT WITH A LION ON A SNOWY DAY by Mark Batterson

Next Meeting: March 21, 2023, 7pm -Activity Bldg.

It is never too late to join the study and fellowship offered here.

Wednesday Night Bible Study—

Each week @ 7pm—Activity Bldg.

Current study: 1 & 2 Samuel



This is a great opportunity to learn more from God's word and enjoy casual fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Thursdays Women's Virtual Bible Study



All ladies are welcomed to join this group at any time. A great deal of learning and fellowship occurs from the comfort of your own home.

Each week on Thursday — 7:00 pm via Google meet

For information regarding access - web-site and passcode contact:

Tracy Robertson at 817-308-0554— or—snowgirlntx@yahoo.com

Current Study: Encountering God—*Cultivating Habits of Faith through the Spiritual Disciplines* by Kelly Minter

The current study will be completed soon. Be watching for the next study, and plan to join the group. This is a great time of fellowship as well as an opportunity to grow in love for one another and for the word of God.

NEXT WEEK

Only a few more days!!

Everyone here at Westworth is joyfully anticipating the arrival of Max and Juanita Pratt in April.

Max is scheduled to begin his position as our full-time minister/preacher on April 2, 2023—**that's next week, folks**—and we

want to make sure they are welcomed according to our best traditions.



We plan an “Official” welcome April 30, 2023 (5th Sunday Lunch).

After a brief time to get “settled in”, let’s have a special fellowship meal. We encourage you to bring cards of welcome, appreciation and love for our “new” minister and family. Invitations will be sent to sister congregations in the area who might like to join us, so please plan your food preparations accordingly. If there is a particular congregation you want to receive an invitation, please let Sherry know.

If you know of someone you feel would like to join in this celebration, please be sure to invite them—as well as to any service at any time, of course.

Reflect...

Take just a few seconds to list five things about heaven that you think would be wonderful.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Think about how much you are looking forward to enjoying these.

Now think about God's only son. The one who makes it possible for you to enjoy those things.

God's son was in heaven from the very beginning. He gave up all that. He was willing to come to earth so that we could enjoy all the glory of heaven. Think about that part of our saviors love for us.

Is your life, and love for Christ, properly reflected by you in your daily life?

Tom Reynolds

Happy Milestones

March Birthdays

Ernie Brawley

Mar 29



April Birthdays

Vivian Keller

Apr 5

Johnny Box

Apr 25

Sarah Lisle

Apr 7

Mark Cohen

Apr 26

Susan Flaherty

Apr 21

Tracy Robertson

Apr 27

Andrea Keller

Apr 23

Nita Parker

Apr 27



No April Anniversaries

Also in April ...

April 9—Easter

April 15—Our service project at *Beautiful Feet* from 7:30 am to noon.

April 16—3rd Sunday Lunch

Apr 30—5th Sunday Lunch (see pg 6)

Ephesians 5:8-11

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Trustee in charge for April: Brian Flaherty

Date	Today—March 26
Open	Curtis Thompson
Usher	Bill Jones
Songs/Close	Curtis Dunson
Prayer	Sharold Ferris
Communion	Tom Reynolds
Bible Story Kids Church	Mike Lisle / David & Hettie Keller
Reading	Jonathan Dunson
Lesson	Kent Benfer
A/V	Randy Feters

COMING WEEKS

Date	April 2	April 9	April 16
Open			
Usher			
Songs/Close			
Prayer			
Communion			
Bible Story Kids Church			
Reading			
Lesson			
A/V			

Communion Preparation April : Wanda Reynolds