## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

WEEK OF SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2025

#### **SUNDAY DOOR GREETERS**

North Side	Amy/Levi/Randi Swallows
South Side	Ricky/ Kelly/ Payne Davis

## **SUNDAY DOOR MONITOR**

## MORNING WORSHIP

Adult Bible Class Prayer	Gary Loftis
Song Leader	Joel Knight
First Prayer	Henry Robinson
Sermon	John Chowning
Lord's Table	Jay Whitson
Closing Prayer	Bobby Rothfus

#### **Evening Worship**

Song Leader	Jay Whitson
First Prayer	Allen Cantrell
Scripture	Payne Davis
Sermon	John Chowning
Lord's Table	Joel Knight
Closing Prayer	Todd Webb

## Wednesday January 29, 2025

Song Leader	Levi Swallows
Scripture Reading	Al Beatty
Devotional Talk	David Allen
Closing Prayer	Jonothan Whitson

## **Wednesday Door Monitor**

Jere Whitson	
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Jere Whitson is responsible for worship assignments. If you are going to be absent or need to request changes, please contact him.

Gospel Broadcast Supported Preaching the Gospel, Sunday 7:30 A.M. - Ch. 11 **Important News:** 

**2025 THEME** 

**Jesus Built His Church** 

Matthew 16:16-19

Verse 18: And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

THIS WEEK'S TEXTS

AM class-2 Timothy 4:6-22

AM sermon- Acts 20:28

PM sermon—Ephesians 1:7-12



# CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

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## **SUNDAY**

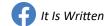
## **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study .....9:00 AM Morning Worship......10:00 A.M. Evening Worship......6:00 P.M.

Bible Study......7:00 P.M.



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# Volume XLVI Thur. January 30, 2025 Number 4

## **Inauguration Day** John Chowning

On January 20th, our nation held its sixtieth Presidential inauguration. Filled with pomp and circumstance, prayers, songs, the introduction of dignitaries, two brief swearing-in ceremonies, and a crowd of spectators at the U.S. Capitol and around the world, the peaceful transfer of power from one political party's President to another party's President occurred. It is an essential ingredient to our country's longevity and liberty.

Regardless of how august this inauguration or its previous fiftynine were, they pale in comparison to the one which occurred nearly two thousand years ago. Forty days after His resurrection (Acts 1:3), Jesus was received by a cloud as He ascended to heaven (Acts 1:9). Declared to be the Son of God with power (I.e., all authority in heaven and on earth--Mat. 28:18) by His resurrection (Rom. 1:4; Acts 13:33), Jesus' return to heaven and His inauguration as the King of kings and Lord of lords, the only Potentate (1 Tim. 6:15) was foretold by David (in Psalms 2 and 24), Daniel (in Dan. 7:13-14), and Zechariah (in Zech. 6:12-13).

It is described by the Apostle Paul with these words: "the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory...set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come and hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all" (Eph. 1:17, 20-23).

The vast superiority and uniqueness of Jesus' Inauguration Day can be clearly seen in the following ways:

Its Location. The place in which Jesus was inaugurated has no earthly, geographic coordinates. Though most of America's inaugurations have been held in Washington D. C. with impressive buildings and memorials as a backdrop, no inaugurated ruler of any country--past, present, or future--has ever been in heaven when placed in his/her position of authority. In fact, Jesus' inauguration is and forever will be he only one heaven has. The omniscient and omnipotent God has always been sovereign over our universe. Only since Jesus' return to heaven has there ever been anyone seated at Jehovah's right hand (Mark 16:19; Eph. 1:20).

Its Occasion. Unlike earthly rulers who secured their power by having to gain a military or electoral victory or succeed a family member, Jesus fought and won the spiritual battles necessary to destroy the works of the devil. Even the most powerful kings in history--like Solomon, Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Alexander the Great, Caesar Augustus--were never escorted by the clouds of heaven into the presence of the Ancient of Days and given dominion, glory, and a kingdom in which all people, nations, and languages should serve Him; none received an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away and a kingdom that shall not be destroyed (as Jesus did--Daniel 7:13-14). Military and electoral victories pale in comparison to the occasion which resulted in Jesus' inauguration.

Its Audience. Many powerful people in government and business can be found at the U. S. Presidential Inauguration. A large multitude of citizens may travel to be in the city in which the inauguration is held. By earthly standards, an impressive audience can be assembled on Inauguration Day, but this pales in comparison to the one described by the apostle John in Revelation 5:11-14: "And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshiped Him that liveth for ever and ever."

Its Benefits. Every President has had a vision and agenda of what he wants to do to improve the country to the benefit of its citizens. Some have been highly successful in making things better; others have not. Even the most successful cannot provide the benefits which came with Jesus' inauguration. With his installment as the King of kings, Jesus also began His work as humanity's High Priest. As predicted in the Old Testament, the priest after the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4) shall be a priest upon His throne (Zech. 6:13).

Because of Jesus' inauguration (and the baptism of the Holy Spirit which indicated the beginning of His reign), whoever calls on the name of the Lord in any language shall be saved (Acts 2:1-4, 21). The blessings of spiritual victory over sin, Satan, and death, plus the enjoyment of all spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3) are now possible for every person in every nation. God's two thousand year old promise to Abraham that in him and his Seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed was fulfilled and will remain a universal blessing to all humanity until the moment Jesus delivers up His kingdom to God the Father (1 Cor. 15:24). No earthly ruler has any ability or potential to bless the human race that compares to Christ's.

What an Inauguration Day Jesus had!

## IMPORTANT NEWS

-Ron Gilbert is needing help preparing the newsletter for Africa. If you can and would like to assist, please meet at the building this Thursday, January 23rd at 10 a.m.

-Our brethren in India report a baptism of a young lady who is also to be married to Brother Maresh's son in February. Please pray for her new walk and their marriage to come.

## **ILLNESSES**

Bonnie Woody, continues to battle her health problems.

**Carolyn Mason**, is dealing with health issues at this time also.

**Ravi**, one of our India brethren, mentioned he is suffering with poor health at this time.

## **SYMPATHY**

**Ora Lee Whitaker**, passed away last Thursday. A private graveside service was requested by the family. Please keep this family in your prayers.

## PANTRY ITEM:

Mixed Canned Beans

## EXTENDED ILLNESS

Bonnie Stockton, Jerry Vincent, Carol Meadows, Junior and Lou Bryant, Sue Ing, Mike and Lucy Mitchell, and Bill and Betty Barnes.

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Ext. 702	Ext. 804
<b>Derek Crawford</b>	
Ext. 703	Todd Webb
PREACHER	Ext. 805
<del></del>	Jay Whitson
John Chowning	Ext. 806
Ext. 700	Jere Whitson
<u>Deacons</u>	Ext. 807
Ron Brown	Jonothan
Ext. 801	Whitson
Ricky Davis	Ext. 808
Ext. 802	