

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude “Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above” *B. L. Bobb*
Kay Wildman, Church Organist

Welcome and Greeting in Jesus’ Name

*Hymn # 56 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

*Call to Worship

If the Lord had not been on our side - let Israel say -

If the Lord had not been on our side

when people attacked us,

they would have swallowed us alive

when their anger flared against us;

the flood would have engulfed us,

the torrent would have swept over us,

the raging waters would have swept us away.

Praise be to the Lord,

who has not let us be torn by their teeth.

We have escaped like a bird

from the fowler’s snare;

the snare has been broken,

and we have escaped.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

The Maker of heaven and earth.

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*Opening Prayer

*Songs of Faith #

SPECIAL QUARTET

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER –

OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Karen Kirby

The First Reading

Esther 7:1-6.9-10;9:20-22

The Second Reading

James 5:13-20

Song # 113

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Dedication: For every reprieve you have granted, for every blessing bestowed, for every breath you have given, for every debt now paid, once owed, for every sign or glint of heaven, for earthly love and suffering, for every heart of sin repented:

O Blessed God, for every grace, we thank you, and we offer you these signs of our love, in Jesus’ name.

Special Song

SPECIAL QUARTET

*The Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

Message “Practical Wisdom: Confessing, Calling and Cures”

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH & SERVICE

***Invitation to Faith and Fellowship –** If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God’s forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song

*Hymn #473

“What a Friend We have in Jesus”

CONVERSE

*Spoken Benediction

*Postlude “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

R. A. Hobby

Kay Wildman, Church Organist

*Please stand if able

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN TODAY

GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to redeem all people. The Bible outlines the way to become a follower of Jesus Christ:

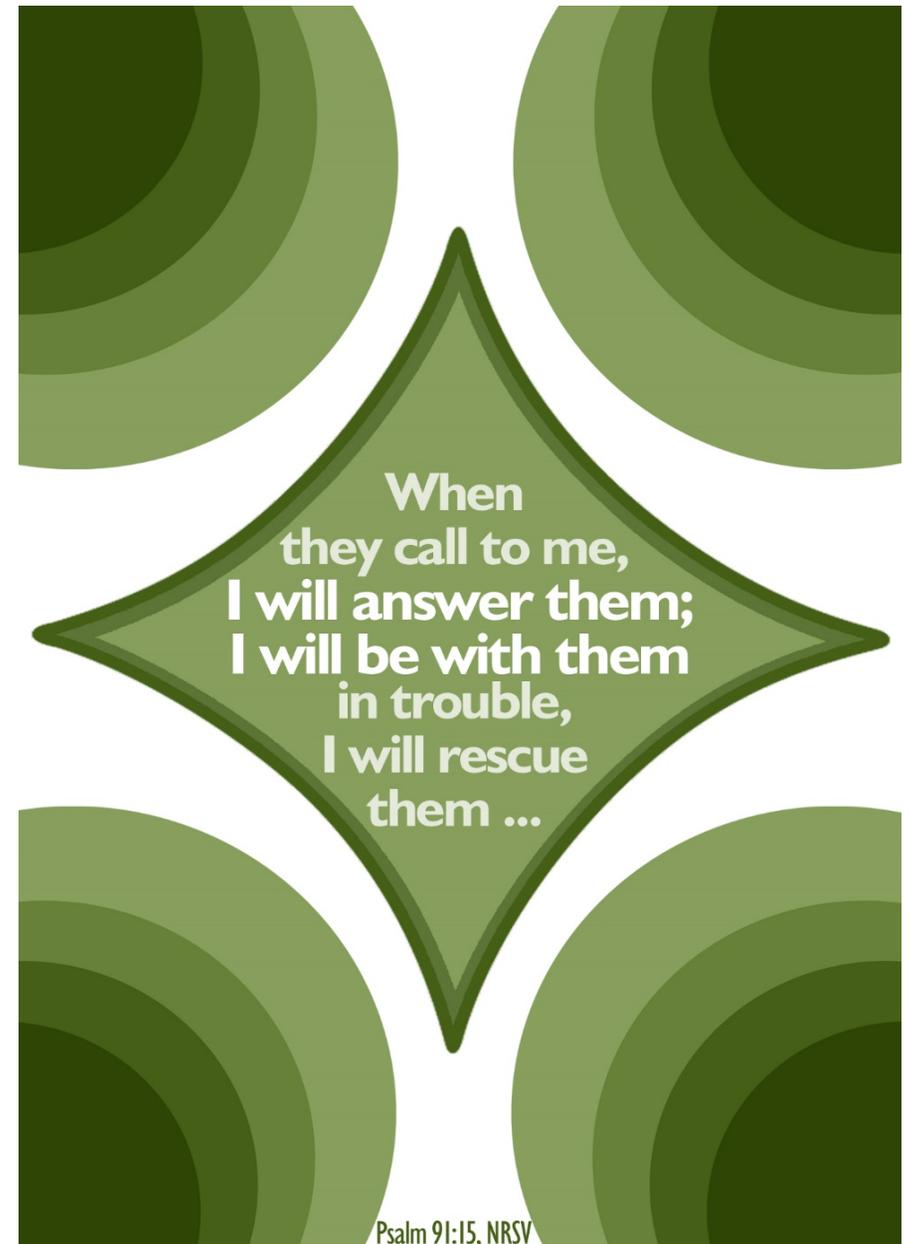
1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you are a sinner (you have done wrong things). Apologize to God and turn away from harmful behavior and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** - Believe that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross and rose from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Savior (Rescuer and Redeemer) and Lord (Ultimate Leader). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS** - Tell your family and friends about your new faith in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly announce your decision to be a Christian.

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor, Moderator, or come forward at a meeting of the congregation. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.



American Baptist Church USA – American Baptist Churches USA (ABCUSA) is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with approximately 5,000 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members across the United States and Puerto Rico.

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