

ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 5, 2025

Song: **927** – *Nothing But the Blood*

Song: **527** – *It Is Well with My Soul*

First prayer: **Larry Simmons**

Song: **92** – *When My Love to Christ Grows Weak*

Communion servers: **Mernie Ray & David Ray**

Prayer for giving: **Chrishawn Thompson**

Song: **840** – *Standing on the Promises*

Sermon: “Jesus Was Not Lost” – **Jerry Brewer**

Invitation song: **420** – *Come to the Feast*

Closing song: **691** – *Farther Along*

Closing prayer: **Mark Brandt**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Tony Lopez, Starlyn Cooper, Carmen Lawson, Kim Nguyen – cancer
- Brian (heart) and Kim (pancreatitis)
- Marjorie Trammel (Alyssa’s friend) – cancer
- Shane, Alyssa, & Addison – adoption process
- Kevin Lively (Mark’s friend)
- Mernie’s sisters-in-law: Kathy Ray (eyesight) and Fannie Ray
- Kim’s cousin’s son (Isaac Wood)–hole in heart caused by stroke (upcoming surgery)
- Our members with health issues: Kim, David

Please continue to remember: Connie Townsend, Lucinda, Vipin & family, India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Happy birthday to **Sherlene Brewer** (October 5th)!
- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)

RECORD FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 8 AM Worship – 9 Sun PM – 8 DBR – 5 Wed (10/1) – 11

Contribution – \$1151

Yukon Church of Christ

THE LABORER

702 South Ranchwood Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 354-0238

Preacher: David Ray

Web Site: www.yukoncofc.com

Sunday Bible class: 9am **Worship** 10am & 12:30pm **Wednesday Bible class:** 7pm

Matthew 9:37-38 “The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.”

Volume 21

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October 5, 2025

YOUNG MEN LEADING WORSHIP

Recently I read about a congregation in western Oklahoma that hosted several boys from the Sayre church of Christ (also in western Oklahoma), having them lead their worship assembly, handling all aspects of it except prayer and the Lord’s Supper. I do not know the age of each boy, but it was reported that only one of them partook of the Lord’s Supper, leading to the conclusion that none of the others were Christians. Is this a problem?

Before addressing this, we should acknowledge that it is always an encouragement to hear that our young men are growing in knowledge and in their desire and ability to lead. Certainly the church should be excited to see our youth engaged in these things, particularly given the more popular types of activities our society’s youth tends to involve itself in these days. The concern is that, apparently, most of them were not Christians.

An article on Sayre’s church bulletin for May 12, 2024 speaks about the congregation’s participation in the Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes program. It can be assumed that what was witnessed from these young men was a product of their involvement in this program. The article begins by saying, “Part of the responsibility of the Lord’s church is to equip and train her members to serve and to use their gifts to build up the church and to glorify God...Ephesians 4:11-14.”

First of all, we need to recognize that this passage is dealing with the **miraculous** gifts of the 1st century that were necessary in order for the church to

develop and grow during its infancy, prior to the New Testament writings being completed and circulated. Second, it isn't addressing the raising of children. This responsibility resides with the parents (Eph. 6:4).

In addressing the worship leadership by these young, unbaptized men, consider that the Lord's one church is made up of Christians, i.e., those who believe in Jesus, have repented of their sins, confessed Him as Lord, and have been immersed in water for the purpose of having their sins forgiven, thereby being added to that one church (Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 12:13). Should this church be led in worship by one or more who do not meet these simple qualifications for membership and, therefore, are **not** members of that body? What would ever cause someone to answer this in the affirmative? Does a non-member of **any** organization lead that organization? Likewise, it would make no sense for the church's worship assembly to be led by a non-member of the church.

This applies to **anyone** who is not a member of Christ's church. Those who are not members of the Lord's church can fall into several categories, such as atheists, those who believe in God but reject Jesus as His Son, those who profess to be Jesus' followers "but in works deny Him" (Titus 1:16), etc. But among these would also be children, either those who are too young to fully understand sin, sacrifice, redemption, etc., or those who understand these things and are developing their belief in Jesus, but have not yet decided to obey His command to be baptized. Young men in this category need to be taught, primarily by their fathers (Eph. 6:4), but also by the older men of the congregation. They do not need to be leading the congregation in worship when they are not yet members of the church. There exists no passage in the New Testament commanding or authorizing such action.

Colossians 3:17 is a very important verse in regard to the church and our determination of what actions we should and shouldn't engage in during our worship of God. It says, "and whatsoever ye do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...." When we understand that the word *name* in this text means *authority*, then we can see that God expects us to do **everything** in religion **with His authority**. This means that when we consider any actions (e.g., things we might do in worship), we must search the Scriptures (particularly the New Testament) to determine if the action in question is authorized. This passage (along with 2 Tim. 3:16-17, 2 Pet. 1:3, Rom. 14:23, et.al.) teaches us that, along with explicit and implicit forbiddance passages, the New Testament's **silence** on an action forbids that action.

Therefore, it seems our response to this issue is simple: there is no scriptural authority for its practice; it is, by definition, unauthorized and should be avoided.

Their response to this, no doubt, would be to express how important it is to train our young men to do these things (i.e., lead in worship through prayer, song leading, preaching, etc.). With this we whole heartedly agree. But whose responsibility is it to train them?

Proverbs 22:6 – *“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”* To whom would this apply more than to the child's parents?

Ephesians 6:4 – *“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”*

Titus 2:6 – *“Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.”*

These passages make it clear that young men indeed should be taught. But the primary responsibility falls upon their fathers. The adult men of the congregation should also teach these younger men good works, sound doctrine, sound speech (Titus 2:6-8). But having these young men lead the worship of the church, in addition to being biblically unauthorized, is not necessary in order for us to teach them these important leadership skills.

Therefore, while we are happy and excited to see young men aspiring to lead in the worship of the Lord's church and commend them for this, we would first exhort them to obey the gospel and be added to this church before attempting to lead it.

David Ray

[What Must I Do To Be Saved?](#)

1. [HEAR THE WORD](#) Romans 10:17
2. [BELIEVE IN JESUS](#) John 3:16; 8:24
3. [REPENT OF YOUR SINS](#) Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; 2 Corinthians 7:10
4. [CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD](#) Romans 10:9-10 (cf. Acts 8:37)
5. [BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS](#) Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
6. [REMAIN FAITHFUL](#) 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:23; Revelation 2:10