

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 11, 2026

Song: **524** – *Just Over in the Glory Land*

Song: **270** – *Fairest Lord Jesus*

First prayer: **Adam Bentley**

Song: **93** – *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Communion servers: **Chrishawn Thompson & Mark Brandt**

Prayer for giving: **Larry Simmons**

Song: **611** – *Give Me the Bible*

Sermon: “*What Happens When We Die?*” (**Luke 16:19-31**) – **David Ray**

Invitation song: **424** – *Hark! The Gentle Voice*

Closing song: **237** – *Beyond This Land of Parting*

Closing prayer: **Mernie Ray**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Pattie Hutchinson & Bruce Shive (Sue’s siblings) – health concerns
- Jerry – surgery recovery
- Tony Lopez, Starlyn Cooper, Carmen Lawson, Kim Nguyen – cancer
- 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 & India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Happy birthday to **Shane Upton** (today)!
- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)

RECORD FOR WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 2026

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 16 AM Worship – 16 Sun PM – 15 DBR – 5 Wed (1/7) – 12

Contribution – \$1496

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 22

Number 2

January 11, 2026

SIMPLE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY

The only thing that Jesus ever promised to build was His church (Mat. 16:18). It was of such exceeding worth to Him that He paid the ultimate price of His own blood for it (Acts 20:28). He loved it so deeply that He “gave himself up for it” (Eph. 5:25). The apostles began to preach the Gospel in its fullness on the day of Pentecost following Jesus’ resurrection and ascension to Heaven. As men heard and obeyed their message the Lord forgave them of their sins and added them to His church (Acts 2:37–47). And so, the church of Christ began and grew as the Gospel spread in ever-widening circles. The apostles, as the personal, inspired representatives of Christ, preached in such a way that the church was established exactly like He wanted it to be. In its organization, its worship, its work, its terms of admission, and its way of life—indeed in every respect, it was built according to Jesus’ Divine pattern. The church was one in doctrine and practice because the same message was taught “everywhere in every church” (1 Cor. 4:17). Even the hint of division, wearing human names in religion, or teaching or receiving doctrines that conflicted with the apostolic message were punctually rebuked (1 Cor. 1:10–13; 3:1–4; Gal. 1:8–9). The church of God was in no sense a denomination, nor was it composed of denominations. The Lord never gave any man or group of men the right to change His church (Jude 3; Rev. 22:18–19; et al.).

After the death of John, the last apostle, men did not wait long to begin drifting away from the Truth, even as the Gospel had warned (Acts 20:28–30; 2 Tim. 4:1–4; Heb. 2:1; et al.). The departures multiplied with the passing of time until they resulted in the establishment of the Papacy in A.D. 606. Non-Catholic historians mark this as the beginning of the Roman Catholic Church, a completely different institution from the simple and unpretentious church of the New Testament (2 Cor. 11:3). As the Pope gained in power, the abuses and corruptions increased, reaching their apex in the depths of the Dark Ages. Those common folk who sought even to read their Bibles, trying simply to be Christians, were driven underground or cruelly tortured and executed when discovered.

By the beginning of the 16th century the force of the outcries against such atrocities (in the name of “Christianity,” no less) was so great that it could not be totally suppressed. Men of great courage and intelligence, such as Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Calvin began to vigorously protest Rome’s corruptions. They were all reared in Catholicism and began their protests from within. It was their aim to reform the existing church, rather than to start more churches. The Catholic hierarchy refused all suggestions of reform and excommunicated those who sought reformation. The work of these men and others who came after them resulted in the beginning of the Protestant Denominations. From the four or five main groups at the first, these, through numerous divisions and subdivisions in the past 400 years, have multiplied to thousands of separate churches.

As the number of Protestant churches and the divisive spirit increased, some began to doubt that Protestantism was hardly nearer to the simple Christianity of the New Testament than Catholicism. By the early part of the 18th century, some in the British Isles and Western Europe who had grown weary of seeing creeds elevated above the Scriptures, began to establish independent churches, using no creed but the New Testament. By the end of that century, the same phenomenon spontaneously sprang to life in New England. The plea of these men was to disregard all the creeds that keep men divided and go all the way back to the New Testament. Since the Gospel is the seed of the Kingdom (Luke 8:11), they correctly concluded that if only the pure Gospel is followed, only the true, simple church would or could result. The aim of these men was not to reform any existing church, whether Catholic or

Protestant, nor to begin a new church, but to restore the church as revealed in the New Testament. It remains the only justifiable course one can pursue, if one diligently loves God, Christ, and the Bible. This course requires the disavowal of all human names, creeds, practices, and loyalties in religion, but brings one into the glorious freedom of the Truth of Jesus Christ (John 8:31–32). Is there any other way to please God, our Creator, and His Son who died for us? Is there any other way to be His people, His church?

Dub McClish

[**Note:** I wrote this article for and it was published in the March 21, 1980, edition of Light of Life, of which I was editor. This monthly paper was published and mailed to every address county-wide by Granbury Church of Christ, Granbury, TX.]

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THE LORD HAD ALREADY CALLED

A call came on Sunday morning: “Tell Mother not to go to church services this morning; we are coming.”

But the mother went right on to Bible study and worship anyway. The daughter was furious when she arrived and no one was home to meet her. She said, “I called you and told you that I was coming and you went on to worship anyway.” The mother replied, “I’m sorry dear, but the Lord had already called.”

Author unknown

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