

ORDER OF WORSHIP

February 22, 2026

Song: **11** – *Praise Him! Praise Him!*

Song: **819** – *Victory in Jesus*

First prayer: **Adam Bentley**

Song: **787** – *Low in the Grave He Lay*

Communion servers: **Larry Simmons & Mernie Ray**

Prayer for giving: **Larry Simmons**

Song: **743** – *Sowing the Seed of the Kingdom*

Sermon: “*The Value of the Colossian Brethren*” (**Col. 1:24-29**) – **David Ray**

Invitation song: **465** – *Are You Washed in the Blood?*

Closing song: **775** – *To Christ Be True*

Closing prayer: **Shane Upton**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Jerry & Sherlene – health
- Pattie Hutchinson & Bruce Shive (Sue’s siblings) – health concerns
- Tony Lopez, Starlyn Cooper, Carmen Lawson, Kim Nguyen – cancer
- Marjorie Trammel (Alyssa’s friend) – cancer
- Shane, Alyssa, & Addison – adoption process
- 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 **Mark Brandt** (Feb 20) and **Kim Zumalt** (Feb 27)!
- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)
- www.youtube.com/@churchofChrist-

RECORD FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 15, 2026

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 12 AM Worship – 12 Sun PM – 10 DBR – 5 Wed (2/18) – 8

Contribution – \$1451

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 8

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“WITHOUT EXCUSE”

Part One

Man has a knack for making excuses. Adam and Eve attempted to excuse their culpability in the first sin by blaming others—Adam blamed Eve (and God!) and Eve blamed the serpent (Genesis 3:12-13). Politicians attempt to excuse themselves by blaming other politicians or by claiming ignorance. Even Moses, “the servant of the Lord,” tried to make excuses as to why he could not serve the Lord as the Lord commanded (Exodus 4:1-13). People make excuses for wrongdoing; people make excuses for inaction. Some will even attempt excuses at the Judgment Day (Matthew 7:22-23).

And excuses tend to be silly—actually **excusing** nothing. Following an accident, one motorist filing a claim with his automobile insurance company explained the problem: “The pedestrian had no idea which direction to run, so I ran over him.” Mark Twain told of an occasion when a neighbor, known for borrowing tools but failing to return them, stopped by wanting to borrow his ax. Twain replied, “I’m sorry, but I’m going to need it to eat soup.” The perplexed neighbor marveled at the absurdity of Twain’s statement; but Twain responded with the Yiddish proverb, “One excuse is as good as another.”

When it comes to failing to know and obey God, there is no legitimate excuse:

*For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are **without excuse** (Romans 1:20, all emphases LM).*

“I didn’t know” is not an excuse. Some will say, “I didn’t know God existed,” or, “I didn’t know that God had revealed a plan for my life.” This is the attempted excuse that Romans 1:20 dismantles and destroys. The creation itself reveals the existence of its Creator, and it reveals something of the powerful, Divine nature of its Creator. The psalmist sang, *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork”* (Psalm 19:1). Simply by observing the universe, the weather cycle, and the growth and intricate design of life on earth, one can easily determine that there is indeed a Creator, and a powerful, intelligent, and benevolent One at that.

The necessary things of God that cannot be determined from His general revelation in nature can be known by His **special** revelation—the Bible. And the Bible is readily available to almost anyone who might be reading this publication. Over 6 billion copies of the Bible have been printed in 451 different languages. Ninety-one percent of American households own at least one Bible, and the average household has four.

Perhaps some may not have been brought up in a household with four Bibles, or with **any** Bibles. However, those who truly **want** to know the truth about God and His will can know. Seekers are promised that they will find: *“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled”* (Matthew 5:6). *“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened”* (Matthew 7:7-8). *“[God] is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”* (Hebrews 11:6). Ignorance is no excuse.

“I couldn’t help it” is not an excuse. Many attempt to excuse their sin this way—“the temptation was just too strong,” or “I was born this way,” or “I can’t help it—I’m just a man (or woman),” or the Flip Wilson classic, “the devil made me do it.” The devil certainly **wants** us to sin, and the devil **entices** us to sin. But the devil does not and cannot **make** anyone sin. *“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7). Although Eve tried

to blame the serpent (Satan) for her sin, she was forced to acknowledge, **“I did eat,”** and the Lord held her accountable for her sin (Genesis 3:13, 16).

After Aaron’s inconceivable participation—and **leadership**—in the idolatry and accompanying lewdness which Israel committed at the foot of Mount Sinai, he attempted the “I couldn’t help it” excuse: *“And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord wax hot: thou knowest the people, that they are set on mischief.... So they gave me [gold]: then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf”* (Exodus 32:24). One does not have to be a metallurgist to know that simply heating gold does not cause golden calf statues to pop out.

Each one of us has the ability to choose right and to do it (Joshua 24:15; Luke 1:6). As the psalmist exclaimed, *“I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me”* (Psalm 119:101-102).

To be continued

Lee Moses

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

1. **HEAR THE WORD**
Romans 10:17 – “So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.”
2. **BELIEVE IN JESUS**
John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” **John 8:24** – “...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”
3. **REPENT OF YOUR SINS**
Luke 13:3–“...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” **Acts 17:30**–“And the times of this ignorance God overlooked, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent.” **2 Corinthians 7:10**–“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”
4. **CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD**
Romans 10:9-10–“if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Also **Matthew 10:32-33**; see **Acts 8:37** for an example.)
5. **BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS**
Mark 16:16–“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”; **Acts 2:38**–“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”; **Acts 22:16**–“Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord”; **1 Peter 3:21**–“...baptism doth also now save us...”
6. **REMAIN FAITHFUL**
1 Corinthians 15:58–“Therefore...be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; **Colossians 1:23**–“...if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard”; **Revelation 2:10**–“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”