



ORDER OF WORSHIP

May 16th, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

Thomas Winn — Elder/Pastor

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
The Call to Worship	Chris Kimbrell
Trinity Hymnal No. 286	"We Gather Together"
The Prayer of Confession and Praise	Seth Lirette
Trinity Hymnal No. 135	"I Greet The Who My Sure Redeemer Art"
Trinity Hymnal No. 549	"Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"
The Reading of the Word — <i>Isaiah 35:1-10</i>	Hal Pritchard
Trinity Hymnal No. 453	"O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus"
The Pastoral Prayer	Pastor Winn
The Sermon — <i>"Signs, Demons, Snakes, & Miracles" (Mark 16:17-20)</i>	Pastor Winn
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Trinity Hymnal No. 574	"Have Thine Own Way Lord"
The Benediction	Hal Pritchard
The Postlude	

EVENING WORSHIP

The Prelude	Prepare your heart for worship
Baptist Hymnal No. 249	"Glorify Thy Name"
Baptist Hymnal No. 323	"Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy"
The Sermon — <i>"A Lament for Kings" (Ezekiel 189</i>	Hal Pritchard
A Time of Reflection Upon the Word Preached	
Baptist Hymnal No. 295	"Near to the Heart of God"
The Benediction	Pastor Winn
The Postlude	



COMMENTARY

R.C. Sproul

Pentecostalism, which was born in the opening years of the twentieth century, has since exerted a wide influence around the world. It is a wide and varied movement, with some groups hewing relatively close to historic Christian orthodoxy. Other Pentecostal groups, however, are known for incorporating strange practices into their worship. One group of Pentecostals, which is admittedly on the fringes of the movement, handles poisonous snakes and drinks poison during worship services. These groups base such practices on Mark 16:17–18, which records Jesus’ telling the disciples that those who receive their message will experience various signs and wonders. And as we read the history of the early church in the book of Acts, we see that many of the things Jesus mentioned did take place. There is no record of people drinking poison and surviving in the book of Acts, but there are instances of healing the sick (for example, Acts 3:1–10). Acts 28:1–6 tells us that while Paul was stranded on the island of Malta after a shipwreck, a viper bit him, but he suffered no ill effects. With respect to the practices of intentional snake handling and drinking poison, we must note that today’s passage is descriptive and not prescriptive. That is, it does not give us any command to engage in such practices; it merely says that some believers will, in the course of ministry, happen to be assaulted with poisons of various kinds and survive. Indeed, we

must condemn the intentional engagement with poison as a test of faith or as a practice of worship, for to do such things is to test God, which is forbidden (Deut. 6:16; Matt. 4:7). But what of the gift of miracles? Does God continue to endow certain believers today with a particular ability to heal others and do other signs and wonders? We are not asking whether the Lord continues to heal people supernaturally in response to prayer or whether there are instances where we are saved from accidents and other dangers by means that have no natural explanation. That clearly occurs, for many Christians have seen people healed of diseases that were supposed to be terminal or have even experienced such healing themselves. No, we are asking whether the specific gift of miracle working operates today. And the answer to that question seems to be no. Extraordinary signs and wonders such as are described in Scripture passed away after the Apostolic age ended, for their purpose was to confirm the gospel (Mark 16:20). **Coram Deo:** John Calvin writes, “Miracles were promised only for a time, in order to give luster to the gospel, while it was new and in a state of obscurity.” Miracles confirm that those who claim to be giving divine revelation are actually from God, and once this revelation has been given, miracles are no longer needed. But God continues to intervene supernaturally in His creation, so we pray for the sick and believe the Lord is able to heal them.



RESPONSIBILITIES

Today's Nursery Volunteers

May 16th
<i>Morning</i> Ashley Lirette & Katherine Ranck
<i>Evening/Afternoon</i> Bridgette Kimbrell & Cortney McDonald
<i>Wednesday - May 19th</i> Amanda Spansel

Today's Sound Operator - Dirk de Waal



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The 1st-6th Grade Choir will meet this afternoon at 5:20 pm.

VBS OUTREACH

This afternoon we will pass out door hangars for VBS. We will split up and canvas the Castlewoods neighborhood. If you have questions please see Hal or Bridgette.

VBS

VBS is June 1-4th and volunteers are still needed. There are CAMEL DONATIONS still on wall behind the sanctuary. Please take time to look over them and grab what you can to donate toward VBS this year!

VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING

We ask ALL volunteers to be present for a meeting next Sunday, May 23rd at 5 pm. All guidelines and rules will be covered along with the "gameplan" for the week. Each volunteer will meet with the coordinator over the area they will be serving in. Tribe leader Materials and craft supply boxes will be passed out at this time.

VBS WORKDAY

We will have a scheduled work day for VBS on Saturday, May 29th beginning at 8 am. Please sign up at the bulletin board if you are available to help as we prepare the grounds for the week of VBS. Breakfast will be provided. See Chris for more information.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The ladies bible study will meet this Thursday, May 20th at 11 a.m.



Oatmeal, sugar, and flour

