THE SWORD

May 25, 2025

LMCC
LAWRENCE & MARDER
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Psalm 28:7 (KJV)
The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusted in him,
and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth;
and with my song will I praise him.

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship Experience: 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.

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Word of Week

Preach (2) kērussō <G2784>

Another Greek word translated preach in the NT is the powerful word kerusso <G2784>. Paul used this word in his parting challenge to Timothy, telling him that in the face of apostasy (2 Tim. 3), there was only one thing to do: *Preach the Word* (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

This verb literally means "to announce or to publicly herald." The noun form kērux (<G2783>; 1 Tim. 2:7; 2 Tim. 1:11; 2 Pet. 2:5) refers to the imperial herald who represented the emperor or king and announced his wishes. This word is formal, grave, serious, and authoritative. It's used of John the Baptist, the Lord Jesus, and the apostles and teachers. The herald was not like an ambassador who might "negotiate"; he was a representative of the king and would simply announce the king's decrees. The words of the herald were to be listened to, for to ignore his words would be to ignore the king's words, and to abuse the herald was to abuse the king.

An important observation concerning this word is that while it is sometimes used to refer to others besides the full-time preacher, it is not used of *public* preaching and teaching by anyone other than those who are called, trained, and ordained to do so.

What, then, is preaching? Put simply: *Preaching is the exposition (i.e., detailed explanation) and application of God's Word from the preacher to the people.* True preaching not only explains God's Word according to: (1) the original language, (2) scriptural context, and (3) historical setting, but it also (4) *applies* that truth to Christian living, showing us what God demands from us.

Scripture over and over again demonstrates that there is absolutely nothing more important, or even equal in importance, than preaching. Tragically, however, there are countless things today that are being used to replace preaching: films, comedians, dramas and plays, so-called Bible studies that consist of people just sharing their feelings and opinions of what a given Bible text says to them, Christian music concerts, crowd-pleasing personalities and activities, panel discussions and debates, various church programs, and many others. But the Word of God is clear in showing that *preaching must never be replaced,* nor does it need man's ideas and programs to supplement it.

Whether you are a preacher or a layman, you should be committed to the preaching ministry; if you're a preacher, *practice* it; if you're a layman, *submit* to it.

Scriptures for Study: What is the importance of preaching, according to Romans 10:14? In 1 Corinthians 1:23, what is the attitude of unsaved people toward preaching?

Minister's Minutes

Anointed For A Purpose

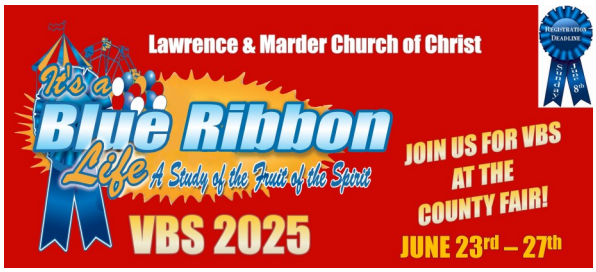
Exodus 29:7—*Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him.*

Another problem occurs with sheep during mating season. As long as it is not mating time, they all get along fine. But as soon as mating time comes around the male sheep begin fighting. They start butting heads with each other. All during the night you will hear them hitting one another. They are trying to fight for the champion, the boss in the spot. Sometimes they even kill each other over the female sheep. So how does the shepherd handle that?

The shepherd goes out and does the same as fighters do. Fighters are intentionally all greasy when they get in the ring. They put heavy grease on their body so when the opponent hits them the blow will slide off. That's the way the shepherd does the sheep. He takes the sheep and anoints his head with axle grease all over so when he butts the other sheep's head, it will slide off. After they butt each other two or three times and can't get a good hold, they see they have done no damage and they just stop fighting altogether. He anointed my head with oil to protect me.

What all does it mean when he says he anointed my head with oil? One purpose for the anointing is separation. If I have been anointed, I have been separated from the world. You want to be careful when folk call you regular, because when they say you are a regular person, you are just like everybody else. But you are not regular; you are separated. The Bible says, "Be ye separated. Come ye out from among them. Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." We have been separated. We have been set apart for a holy use. God doesn't anoint everybody; He anoints only his children. He gives us a special anointing in order to fulfill our purpose in his kingdom. The anointing helps prepare us for the storms of life. The anointing is an indication that we have been accepted by Him.

Announcements

- Let us keep all those who have lost loved ones, and those hospitalized, in our thoughts and prayers.
- We would like to wish a happy birthday and/or anniversary to everyone who is celebrating this week.
- Attention, church family! To ensure that all announcements and print requests are processed in a timely manner, please submit them by **Wednesday at 7:00 PM** of the preceding week **to church@landmcoc.org**. We understand that emergencies may arise, and we will do our best to accommodate urgent requests. However, **verbal, written, or texted announcements during the Sunday worship experience are strongly discouraged** to maintain the flow and reverence of our service. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our worship experience focused and organized!
- If anyone would like to assist with transportation for Crossroads/LMCC Food Distribution please see brother Mac Fulbright.
- Lawrence and Marder 5-Year Luncheon will be at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen (3520 Oak Lawn Avenue, Dallas, TX) on August 16, 2025 from 3PM-6PM. Cost is $60 per person ($12 for 12 and younger) and must be made no later than August 3, 2025.
- If you would like to volunteer to help with the 5-Year Congregational Dinner or the 100 Year Anniversary please see Felton Davenport, Mac Fulbright, Reginald Osborne, George Robinson, Gary Walker.
- Sunday Morning Worship experience can be watched on the church website: www.landmcoc.org/broadcast; Church Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. Please "Like" and "Share".
- Children's Worship Hour is for children Pre-K through 4th grade.
- Church Zoom Information for Adults and Youth Wednesday Night Class: **Meeting ID: 915 0578 2664 Password: 859242 Call In Number: 1-346-248-7799**
- 

Continuous Announcements

- Holistic Homeless Haven Support: Please donate gently worn clothing, which will be washed or drycleaned, neatly folded, and packaged for the less fortunate. Men's clothing is especially needed. - See Brother Wright for more details.
- Every 2nd Sunday Marsalis Avenue host a Zoom Grief Support Meeting at 4PM (Meeting ID: 880 4065 3591, Passcode: 411521)
- California Avenue Church of Christ in Bakersfield, CA host a Sunday Evening Spiritual Encouragement Hour each week on Zoom at 7:30PM central time (Meeting ID: 875 1387 3553, Passcode: 1020cal#)

What is the Plan of Salvation?

I Peter 1:20 (NASB) says, "For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you." Before God said let there be light, the plan for mankind's salvation had already been created by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Before God formed man from the dust of the earth, the heavenly trinity had already established a plan for the redemption of mankind. Before God beheld that all He created was "very good" and decided to rest on the seventh day, the Godhead formulated a mystery that would be revealed to reunite mankind with God. We must be thankful to God that His love for us reached back before there was an us. In knowing this, we should follow after the WORD that was made flesh and dwelt amongst us without hesitation. Jesus the Christ is everything that we need (II Peter 1:2–4).

Hear the Gospel of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Romans 10:14). One must hear the glorious message that Jesus the Christ sacrificially died for the penalty of our sin, and that he was raised from the dead by the power of God.

Believe in <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Hebrews 11:6). One must believe that Jesus was more than just a man, but the Christ.

Repent in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Luke 24:46–47). Repentance is required; however, it is not said to take away sin, but rather it produces in us a desire to be vindicated by Jesus the Christ.

Confess that <u>Jesus the Christ</u> is the Son of God (Acts 8:36–37). A person must be willing to make the greatest proclamation ever known to mankind, and that is Jesus the Christ is the Son of God.

Be baptized for the remission of sins in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Acts 2:38). Baptism is not a sign of salvation, but rather a New Testament requirement for salvation. The action emulates our Lord and Savior's death, burial and resurrection.

Being faithful until death like <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Philippians 2:4–8). If we stay faithful to God's will, God's word and God's way, we will have a home not made with hands awaiting us some day.

What is the Plan of Salvation? How do I become a Christian?
The Answer: <u>JESUS the CHRIST</u>

Sermon Notes for May 25, 2025

Speaker: Ramon Hodridge

Text: Matthew 11:28-30

Title: Love in the Struggle

Notes:

Minister's Email: minister@landmcoc.org

QR CODES

VISITOR CHECK-IN

MEMBERSHIP CHECK-IN

RESPONSE CARD REQUEST