



James: The Unifying Leader
Acts 15:1-21

July 25, 2021

Characters
Rev. Dr. Jim Glatz

Prelude

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
arr. Joel Raney
organ

Celebration of Community

- For visitors and members, we have QR codes that will take you directly to our visitor information, online bulletin, upcoming events/news and giving page. Just open your camera and scan the QR code, no app necessary. There are also paper visitor forms in the pew pockets if you would like to fill those in and drop them off in the baskets as you leave the service.

- Wednesday Nights in July. Join us at 6 pm for Dinner (Bring Your Own). Worship begins at 6:20 pm in the Light House Auditorium with music and a guest speaker each week.

- Sign-Up to Donate Blood at Saxe Gotha on August 2: redcrossblood.org. Sponsor Code: saxegotha.

We Gather to Worship

Music of Preparation

8:30- "Sweet Hour of Prayer"....arr. C. Berry
11:00- "Jesus, Keep me near the cross (Handbell video)

Call to Worship

Psalm 111:1-4
Leader: Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart
in the council of the upright and in the assembly.
People: Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.
Leader: Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.
All: He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

Opening Hymn

8:30 #43 "All hail the power of Jesus name"
11:00 # 16 "All hail the power of Jesus name"

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, you reconciled us to yourself through the sacrifice of your Son Jesus Christ. Through Calvary's Cross, the walls of sin that alienated us from you have been torn down. We are no longer your enemies; we are your friends. We confess to you that we often do not follow your example to make the first move to be reconciled to others. We allow walls of hostility to stand as we hold to grudges and fail to love our enemies. Forgive us, Lord. Bless us with a loving, generous spirit that is able to respond to the Good News by seeking reconciliation. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Colossians 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Affirmation of Faith

From the Lausanne Covenant

To evangelize is to spread the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as the reigning Lord he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gifts of the Spirit to all who repent and believe. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand. But evangelism itself is the proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Saviour and Lord, with a view to persuading people to come to him personally and so be reconciled to God. In issuing the gospel invitation we have no liberty to conceal the cost of discipleship. Jesus still calls all who would follow him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and identify themselves with his new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his Church and responsible service in the world.

Gloria Patri

Children's Message (Video)

Dismiss Children to Children's Worship (11:00)

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Hymn

Speak, O Lord (#368 from Hymns of Grace)

Offertory Prayer

Thank you to all who have donated to Change for South Sudan. Just a reminder that today is the last day to give online at saxegotha.org/give. Goal: 80 Talking Bibles.

Anthem

8:30 "Jesus, Keep me near the cross" (Handbell video)

11:00 "Holy is He"- Sanctuary Choir

Bumper Video

We Hear God's Word

Message

James: The Unifying Leader (Acts 15:1-21)

We Respond to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Invitation and Benediction

Closing Hymn

#597 Take my life and let it be

Postlude

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

arr. BettySue Shepherd