# July 21: Sunday Worship LeadersJuly 28: SundaySongs: Randy GrossmanSongs: Clem FOpening Prayer: Jonah LeeOpening Prayer: Clem Rosenberger IIICommunion-lead: Clem Rosenberger IIICommunion-serving:Rick Smith,Scott Waltenbaugh, Jesse De La RosaRyan Barron, BiScripture: Caleb SmithScripture: RaaScripture Reading: Lamentations 1:1-11Scripture Reading: Lamentations 1:1-11Sermon: Brandon ForeshaClosing Prayer: Matt FisherClosing Prayer: Matt FisherClosing PrayerRemarks: Ben WrightCommunionCommunion Prep: Dave & Debbie BarronCommunion

### July 28: Sunday Worship Leaders

Songs: Clem Rosenberger III Opening Prayer: Brian Steffy Communion-lead: Carl Nulph Communion-serving: Jonah Lee, Ryan Barron, Billl McGaughey Scripture: Randy Grossman Scripture Reading: Lamentations 1:12-22 Sermon: Brandon Foresha Closing Prayer: Tom Sellers Remarks: Steve Maul Communion Prep: Dave & Debbie Barron

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ladies' Bible Study: August 1 "Becoming a Woman God Can Use". Chapter 6. Every other Thursday at 1:30pm at the building.
- Every Wednesday at 1pm: a group gathers at the building for visiting. See Ben or Brandon.
- **Sunday evening studies:** Sign up to teach a lesson. Sign up sheet on table in foyer.
- Please look at the sheet on the countertop in the foyer to see if your clearances are up to date. Anyone teaching/helping with a children's Bible class or helping with VBS needs to have clearances.
- Transform Ladies' Conference deadline for registration is July 30. Please let Debby know if you would like to attend.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS & UPDATES**

- Keep Gabe and Elizabeth in prayer for their upcoming marriage.
- Keep praying for Steve's eyes. He is recovering from cataract surgery.
- Barb's sister-in-law, Terri Bertino, has stage 4 lung cancer.
- Pat Gutherie's brother-in-law has passed away. Please pray for the family.
- Tine has been in the hospital. They have moved her to another unit for physical therapy.
- Mary had a CT scan done on her lungs. Please pray for good results.
- Please pray for the unity of our country and for our leaders.
- Pray for all those traveling and also attending Church Camps
- As always, pray for Brandon, the elders, deacons and Bible class teachers!



## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM Sunday Evening Service: 6:30 PM Wednesday Eve Bible Study: 7:00 PM

# **July 21, 2024**

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 344 Kittanning, PA 16201

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### MINISTER

Brandon Foresha.....(724) 525-4111

### ELDERS

Steve Maul	(724) 859-1878	
Brian Steffy	(724) 664-2064	
Ben Wright	(724) 549-2805	,
Clem Rosenberger III	(724) 859-1204	

### DEACONS

Ryan Barron	(724) 841-1405
Justen Traxler	(501) 272-8736

### We are now LIVE on YouTube!!!

We are working to organize all of the sermon and bible study videos into playlists for your convenience. Check us out.

Remember to LIKE, SUBSCRIBE and SHARE, SHARE, SHARE! http://www.youtube.com/@KittanningchurchofChrist

### **OTHER OPTIONS FOR ACCESSING SERVICES:**

- Join us on Facebook at Kittanning Church of Christ Group
- To listen via phone, call in at 1-408-418-9388; at prompt enter code 797 046 235
- For Webex conference go to:

https://kittanningchurchofchrist.my.webex.com/meet/clemdebby. You may have to download Webex program on a computer or cell phone app.

Follow instructions from the link. **Meeting # is 797046235** 

**PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONE** if you use Webex. Questions about Webex, please call Debby at (724) 954-4776.

**\*\*Remind App text message system:** To sign up and receive messages please text this number-81010 with this message- @32f4df

# The Outward Appearance Of Jesus

Jesus "had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him" (**Isa 53:2**). Elsewhere we have discussed the true beauty of Jesus, but here we are going to consider another facet of what the

appearance of Jesus implies for our standing with God. If it is not the physical appearance that draws us to Christ, then what does this tell us about the emphasis we might place on physical appearances in our own time? While the body given by God is not to be abused, physical beauty does not draw people to Christ. As a corollary thought, our physical beauty or appearance does not draw God to us. The Lord promises to draw near to those who draw near to Him (Jas 4:8). In this case, the drawing near is connected to cleansing and purification, not of the physical body, but of the heart (cf. Heb 10:22). This coincides with Peter's point that baptism is not about the removal of dirt from the body, but an appeal to God for good conscience through Christ's resurrection (1 Pet 3:21). Scripture continually stresses the need to purify the heart, regardless of the outward circumstances.

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Recall, also, what God said to Samuel when he went to the house of Jesse to anoint the next king. Samuel saw the sons of Jesse, thinking perhaps that Eliab was the one to be anointed, until God said, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (**1 Sam 16:7**). David would be God's choice. We can also connect the description of the virtuous woman in Proverbs 31. She creates beauty in her home, but she knows that "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised" (Prov **31:30**). The apostle Peter provides a similar perspective. The woman trying to win her husband to the Lord is told, "Do not let your adorning be external-the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear- but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious" (1 Pet 3:3-4). What draws God's attention is the inward beauty, not the outward adornment. None of this is to say we should try to look sloppy or not take care of our bodies. After all, our bodies belong to God (1 Cor 6:19). We are saying that the inner beauty is what God is really wanting. Jesus came into the world perhaps looking ordinary, but with a divine mission to spread His message to all nations. This was God's plan from the beginning, expressed in the promise made to Abram that "in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen 12:3). Israel was to be a light to the nations (Isa 49:6), Jesus came as the light of the world (John 8:12; 9:5), and that same mission is given to His disciples (Matt 5:14-16; 28:18-20). The result is that people from "every tribe and language and people and nation" are redeemed, ransomed by His blood (**Rev 5:9-10**). The city of God is illuminated by the light of God so that the nations walk by that light and bring their glory and honor into it (Rev 21:22-27). This encompasses all varieties of outer appearances.

The physical appearance of Jesus, regardless of how He is often depicted, can remind us that salvation does not depend on outward appearance or strength. God is not pointing to one group because of looks and choosing them over others. Humans make unnecessary outward distinctions, and this to our detriment. Human pride and sin divides, segregates, and seeks to elevate one ethnicity over another. Christians, of all people, ought to know better because our citizenship is in heaven (**Phil 3:20**). God shows no partiality, "but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him" (**Acts 10:35**). The color of skin or the language spoken are not God's deciding factors in salvation. Our geographical location or nationality is not what draws God to us or us to Him; barriers need to come down for God's people (**cf. Eph 2:11-22**; **Acts 17:26**). We must not favor some because of looks, impressive clothing, or material wealth. James 2 reminds us that such partiality is a sin. By showing partiality, we diminish the power of the cross.

How Jesus looked physically is irrelevant to His message. This is consistent with God's pattern of stressing the heart over the outer appearance (**cf. John 7:24**). Though Jesus was Jewish in the flesh, His mission encompasses the Gentiles, so that all, both Jew and Gentile, may be reconciled to God (**Rom 1:16-17**; **2 Cor 5:16-21**). That includes you, me, neighbors and all nations. Redemption is for all.

-Doy Moyer, Vestavia Church of Christ, Vestavia Hills, AL



🖂 Cards of Encouragement

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Sqt. Michael Gutherie B1-112th

Lori Smith

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PSC 831 Box 205

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Templeton, PA 16259

Anniversary

July 29 - Randy & Jacque Lukehart July 30 - Randy & Barb Salsgiver

Text or email announcements & prayer requests to: Stephanie 724-398-9329 steph@grafxloft.com

For the Lord your God is He who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory.

— Deuteronomy 20:4

Thank you for attending services with the church who meets in Kittanning! We invite you to study and worship with us again.