



Connecting all to Christ to become  
healthy in God and courageous in love.

# Above All

## The Supremacy and Sufficiency of Christ

# Traditional Worship - May 18, 2025 - 8:30 & 11:00 am

## Entering into the Spirit of Worship

Greeting

8:30 - Tom Beattie  
11:00 - Monica Coventry

Prelude

*Pastorale on "Pleyel's Hymn"*

Thompson

**\*Call to Worship**

8:30 - Teree Rice  
11:00 - Richard Acker

Leader: We gather today as those raised to new life in Christ.

**People: Our hearts are set on things above—on Jesus, who reigns!**

Leader: We have died to the old ways of sin and striving.

**People: Our lives are now hidden in the glory of Christ.**

Leader: Let us not cling to empty religion or performance.

**People: We cling to Jesus—our hope, our freedom, our life.**

Leader: Jesus is over everything, and we are alive in Him!

**People: So we worship Him with joy, gratitude, and surrender!**

**\*Hymn**

*Jesus Calls Us (v. 1-4)*

#520

## The Uniting of our Hearts in Prayer

Prayer

8:30 - Pastor Bryan George  
11:00 - Pastor Jared Priset

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Proclaiming the Word of God

Anthem 8:30

*Face the Cross*  
Sanctuary Choir

Schram

11:00

*Inscription of Hope*  
Chancel Choir

Stroope

Scripture Reading

Romans 6:4-6

pg. 913

Prayer of Confession

Father in heaven, though we have died with Christ, we confess that we often live as if we haven't. We return to old habits, old fears, and old performances— trying to earn what You've already given freely in Jesus. We set our minds on things below: success, approval, and control— forgetting that Christ is our life and our true hope. But we thank You, Lord, that in Christ we are forgiven. Our old selves were nailed to the cross, and our new life is hidden safely with Him. By Your grace, help us to live like people who are free. Fix our eyes on Jesus, who is over all, in all, and above all. In His name we pray—Amen.

- \*Response in Song (11:00 only)  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
- \*Prayer of Dedication (11:00 only)
- \*Hymn (11:00 only)Where He Leads Me (v. 1)#516

Senior Sunday

Lil’ Lambs Scholarship Presentation (11:00 only)

Baptism (11:00 only)  
We give thanks for all that God has given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Welcome Song (11:00 only)  
(Chorus)Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome to the family of God. Welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome, welcome to the family of God!  
You’ve been washed in the water and given a name; never again will you be quite the same! So, Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to the family of God! (Chorus)  
You’ve been blessed by the Spirit and greeted with love; chosen and claimed by the Lord up above! So, Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to the family of God! The wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, wonderful, wonderful family of God!

ScriptureColossians 2:20-3:5pg. 956

MessageJesus Over Everything  
Above AllPastor Jared Priset

**Sending Forth**

\*Closing HymnO Jesus, I Have Promised (v. 1, 3 & 4)#592

\*Benediction

PostludePious JubilationCassler

\*Those who are able, please stand  
Choir Director - Abe Gibson; Organist/Accompanist - Joe Jadick

Altar Flowers: are given to the Glory of God  
Acolytes: Jacob Ashley & June Ashley

# Sermon Outline

**Focus:** In Colossians 2:20-3:5, we discover more about what it means to have “Jesus over everything” in our lives. The truth is, legalism is powerless to change us. However, real change happens when we have a resurrection mindset, and we kill the old life in order to live into the new life that Jesus offers us.

## I. Above All: Jesus Over Everything

Following Jesus is not just behavioral modification (a “Jesus plus” religion)  
We don’t grow in Christ by doing more FOR him, but by living more IN him

## II. Legalism is powerless to change the heart

Rule-following only manages our image

Matthew 23:27: *“You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean.”*

We are saved by grace and transformed by grace

We are not what we produce – Jesus has freed us from “performance culture”

## III. Resurrection life requires a resurrection mindset

Colossians 3:1-2

We need a new mindset – **we become what we behold**

How? Spend daily time in Scripture; Talk to Jesus; Surround yourself with people who point you to Jesus; Preach the gospel to yourself

## IV. Kill the old life, Live in the new

Colossians 3:5 – “kill it”

Sin must be removed entirely - it is deceptively desirable

Killing sin by saying a bigger yes to Jesus

How to kill sin?

1. Drag it into the light; 2. Starve it; 3. Replace it; 4. Remember who you are

# Contemporary Worship - May 18, 2025 - 9:30 & 11:00 am

Praise Songs

*Raise a Hallelujah*  
*Holy Spirit*

Welcome

9:30 - Matt Ritzert

Oasis - Julia Fabich

Worship Song & Offering

*Trust in God*

Prayer

9:30 - Pastor Jared Priset

Oasis - Pastor Robby Strock

Senior Sunday

Lil' Lambs Scholarship Presentation (Oasis only)

Scripture

Colossians 2:20 - 3:5

Message

**Jesus Over Everything**  
Above All

Pastor Jared Priset

Closing Song

*Be Thou My Vision*

Benediction

---

## Sermon Outline

**Focus:** Paul proclaims that legalism is powerless to change us. Real transformation happens when we have a resurrection mindset that is willing to put to death the old life in order to live into the new life that Jesus offers.

I) A Trip to the Zoo

Adelynn resisting the call of "Red Light"

II) The Lure of Legalism: Hunger for rules on how to get right with God (Colossians 2: 20-23)

Rule-following only manages our image, but doesn't change the heart

We are not what we produce – Jesus has freed us from "performance culture"

III) Paul points out that the resurrection life requires a resurrection mindset (Colossians 3:1-4)

New set of Values: giving over getting, serving over ruling, forgiving over avenging

New set of Practices: Worship, Prayer, Study, Service

IV) Kill the old life, Live in the new! Easy to pledge, challenging to accomplish! (Colossians 3:5)

Dallas Willard's VIM method: A model of God's partnership with our hearts and minds

Vision: Feeding our minds so they can flourish, not languish

Monitor our input: Junk in will cause junk to come out

You will not find God's vision in tabloids, pornography, or trivial

Intention: The only person who can decide for you is you.

*"seek the thing that are above... set your minds on things that are above"*

God will only take us as far as we cooperate

Means: Spiritual practices: Prayer, Scripture, Study, Fasting, and Service

Practices have no inherent power. They simply make space for God

Learning to chew on scripture rather than just consume

Lessons from feeding the giraffe at the Zoo

Congratulations to the family of Logan Michael Dinh on his baptism today at the 11:00 service.

Congratulations to our Lil' Lambs Scholarship Recipients: Logan Spangler, Ricky Talbott & Evan Dille

## Connect

### Baptism by Immersion

A Baptism by Immersion service will be held on **Sunday, June 8th**, after the 11:00 services in the church parking lot. Anyone who has never been baptized into the Christian faith and would like the chance to make a profession of faith in Jesus and be baptized by immersion are invited to take part. There will be an informational meeting with Pastor Jared on Sunday, June 1st, 12:15 pm in room 206. Please note, if you would like to be baptized this meeting is required. If you have any questions, contact the church office, 330-499-8972.

## Explore

### Church Picnic

Save the date for our annual church picnic on **Sunday, August 17th** after the 11:00 services at the church. More details will be released this summer.

### Church is Hiring

We are currently hiring a Sunday Custodian, a Sound/AV Coordinator, and an Assistant for Christian Education. These are all part-time, paid positions. Full job descriptions and information on how to apply for the positions can be found at [churchofthelakes.org/job-postings](http://churchofthelakes.org/job-postings).

## Serve

### Jackson Community Festival

We will have a booth at the Jackson Community Festival again this year, **June 18th - 21st**. We'll have a free carnival game with small prizes for children, and information about our church. If you are interested in volunteering contact Susan Kirkland, [skirkland8791@gmail.com](mailto:skirkland8791@gmail.com), or 330-806-7953.

### Volunteers for Fellowship of Christian Athletes Camp

Fellowship of Christian Athletes is holding an All-Abilities Sports Camp on **Friday, June 20th**, 5:30 - 7:45 pm and **Saturday, June 21st**, 9:30 am-2:00 pm at Malone University. This camp is for individuals with intellectual and/or physical disabilities. They need volunteers to be buddies for each camper as they play sports and share the Gospel. Use the QR Code to register. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old and will be expected to arrive early both days of camp.



### Crosspoint Yard Sale

Crosspoint UMC's annual yard sale benefiting their missions program is scheduled for **Thursday, June 12th - 14th**. They will accept donations of most items except exercise equipment and clothing. The Crosspoint garage will be open to receive your donations on *Saturdays, May 24th and June 7th*, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. If you have furniture you would like to donate, contact Johnny, [mayerjm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mayerjm@sbcglobal.net). Crosspoint UMC is located at 9687 Portage St. NW, Massillon.

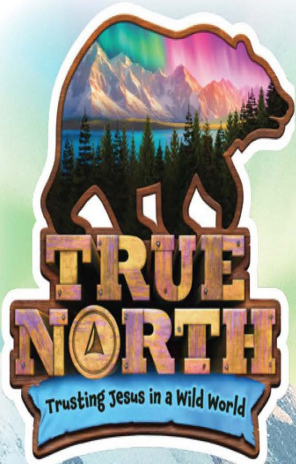
## WAYS TO GIVE

Visit [churchofthelakes.org/online-giving](http://churchofthelakes.org/online-giving) or text: give to 330-961-5524

Offering envelopes are located in the pew pad clipboards.

For EFT instructions contact Stephanie Strock, [stephanie@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:stephanie@churchofthelakes.org)





# Church of the Lakes

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

For children age 4 - 6th grade

**Mornings: June 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>  
8:45 am - 12:15 pm**

**Evenings: June 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>  
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

**REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE:**

**CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG**

Submit your news, information or announcements to [betsi@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:betsi@churchofthelakes.org).



**Please pray for:** Our graduating seniors, Terri Hane, and Mark Harrison

To submit prayer requests call 330-499-8972 ext. 203 or email: [prayer@churchofthelakes.org](mailto:prayer@churchofthelakes.org).