

St John Church of Christ

February 21, 2021

Worship
Service

Premiers
Sunday at 11:00



Welcome Back!

What a week it's been! Record setting lows have made it memorable. But, we're past it for now, and worship warms the soul. We're glad you're back!

Our Adult Bible Class is still being shared online at 10:30. Just visit

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

and select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



The End of the World

People are fascinated with the end of the world and that fascination doesn't just belong in the world of religion. Many "scientists" have erred just as poorly as the myriad of "gloom and doom prophets" who have plagued Christianity.

The appearance of a comet in the sky has repeatedly heralded the end of the world. For example, in April 1910 Halley's comet re-appeared. This was the first-time scientists were able to perform a spectroscopic analysis on a comet and one of the substances discovered in its tail was cyanogen, a toxic gas. French astronomer Camille Flammarion claimed that when the earth passed through the comet's tail on May 19th, the gas "would impregnate the atmosphere and possibly snuff out all life on the planet." You can imagine the panic that ensued! People bought up gas masks and "anti-comet" umbrellas and swallowed "anti-comet" pills!

Nine years later, Albert Porta warned the combined effects of a planetary conjunction on December 17, 1919 would destroy the world. History has a strange way of repeating itself. In 1974 two astrophysicists, John Gribben and



Stephen Plagemann published a best seller, *The Jupiter Effect*, which warned about the effects of a similar nine-planet alignment on March 10, 1982.

Likewise, San Diegans remember the Heaven's Gate cult committed mass suicide there in March 1997. They believed a giant spaceship was hidden behind the Hale-Bopp comet and would take them home if they freed themselves from their mortal shells.

So why are people so interested in the end of the world? It might be because the world seems so overwhelming that a little bit of knowledge feels like power – even if that knowledge means the end of everything. Alex Newton, author of *Plan and Prep: Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse*, wonders if those who hope the world will end need a little excitement in their lives or secretly want society to start over.

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News from Mexico

Christians believe the world will come to an end and we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, but Jesus himself taught us not to obsess or worry or even try to predict the end.

“No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only Father,” (Matthew 24:36).



News & Prayer Requests

Marilyn is scheduled to have knee surgery this week, but must complete some testing beforehand. Pray the testing goes well so she can have the surgery.

Please continue to pray for John's friend, Paul, as he battles cancer in Washington state, and let's continue to pray for Curtis in Pratt as he wrestles with cancer.

Don't forget to pray for little Emersyn, the daughter of Billy and Brianna Milton of Hudson and for Mauren the daughter of the Turner's in Great Bend. We are receiving good reports on the progress of both little girls.

Our brothers and sisters across the south, and especially in Texas, are suffering from this winter storm. They are without power and now there are concerns about their water.

John would like for us to pray for his SIBI students – especially the students in Myanmar.

This past week, we received a letter from Ualdo and Maria with news about their mission work in Parral, Mexico:

My dear brothers in Christ, may the grace of our God and the peace of Christ be with you is my prayer that the God of heaven and earth will fill you with blessings from on high.

My beloved brothers I am communicating again with you to give you reports of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ and of our work in the Lord that we are doing for the honor and glory of our God. I want to tell you that the church of our Lord Jesus Christ continues here in Parral and also in the mountains where from time to time we are going to go to bring the message of salvation and encourage our brothers in the mountains and also to encourage them to do good works.

We are doing it! We are doing it through social media transmissions, and where there is opportu-



nity, we also do it in person, when the opportunity is provided. We are praying to our heavenly Father so that so that we may return to normalcy very soon. I also inform you that we sent some brothers to the mountains because they sent us to call because new souls decided to follow our Lord Jesus



Christ and thank God that they have already been baptized, because this is the result of the seed that we had sown some time ago. Thanks to God for this joy we feel! This is where we see the word of our God fulfilled (Psalm 126: 5 and 6) “Those who sowed with tears will reap with rejoicing. The one who carries the precious seed will walk and cry; but he will come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves.”

Thank you for your prayers for many siblings who have tested positive for covid-19 and also the many siblings who have passed away. We pray to God to end all of this.

May God bless the brothers of St. John and also the brothers of Pratt! Once more, thanks for all your support!

Ualdo and Maria