

## FROM THE PREACHERS DESK

I saw Satan laughing with delight...

In Don McLean's hit song, *American Pie*, there is a line that says, "I saw Satan laughing with delight the day the music died." Don wasn't a bad theologian.

The song, which is eight minutes thirty-three seconds in length, is loaded with cultural references, some cryptic and some obvious. His inspiration for writing the song came after three of the world's most famous musicians died together in a plane crash in 1959 – Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and JP "The Big Bopper" Richardson. But he didn't write the song in 1959. In 1959, McLean was only 13 years old.

The song is about the tragedy of their deaths, but even more it's about the death of an era. As McLean saw it, the tragic plane crash marked the beginning of the end of America as he enjoyed it best. He marked the beginning of the end as February 1959, but to McLean the true end came shortly after cult leader Charles Manson and his followers committed multiple murders in August 1969. And sometime in 1970, McLean began writing a song.

I don't think that his experience was unique. There comes a time, or many times, in everyone's life when they look back and long for what once was. Like McLean, we can all pinpoint the events of our lives that marked the beginning of the end of something. Sometimes the end comes abruptly. Sometimes it drags out for a while.

We are all living in such a time. What marked the beginning of the new world? You know already. Covid. The world will never be the same again. It can't. There are other events going on in our world that are creating even more dramatic changes. Again, our experience is not unique.

And as the world changes around us and fear sets in and worry overcomes us, you better believe that Satan is laughing with delight. This *should* be true only of those who don't know Jesus, but believers are increasingly allowing the circumstances of life to get us down and discouraged. And when Satan can discourage God's own children, he is overcome with delight.

There's another line in McLean's song that ruins what began as his good theology. That line is this, "...the three men I admire most, the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost – they caught the last train for the coast, the day the music died."

(continued)→

Wrong. Wrong. Wrong. Though his sentiment, I think, is common, it is not only wrong, it's wrong three times over. The Godhead three don't leave their people in hard times. There are no endings of "good times." Times haven't been good since Adam ate the fruit.

When things work out to our liking for a sustained period of time it creates an illusion of what becomes in our memories something akin to heaven on earth. But eventually, something messes it all up and we write and sing our own sad song.

I'd like to offer an alternative. It's not really mine though. I stole it from the Apostle Paul. Colossians 3:1-4

*...if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*

I love that Paul says, *keep seeking the things that are above*. His implication? Don't ever stop. Jesus is in heaven and we will be too. Paul says to stop looking back and longing and start looking forward with longing.

Paul says to fixate your mind on heavenly things. If we do that, we won't mind the earthly things so much. In verse three Paul wants to make his point as clear as possible. He says, if you belong to Christ, that old you that fell to pieces when the world changed, that bought into a worldly dream of perfect happiness in this life in this place, that old you died. Old Wes isn't here anymore. New Wes has arrived. And new Wes doesn't look back, he looks forward to the revealing of Jesus.

Though I am guilty of these things, I encourage you as I encourage myself: Don't be discouraged church. Don't let this world get you down. Don't look back and wish for what once was; Look forward and understand that evil will not win. Our victory has already been secured by Jesus.

And don't give Satan a reason to laugh with delight. His day is coming.

Much love!

Wes LeFlore (918) 607-8489 or [huskerwes1@gmail.com](mailto:huskerwes1@gmail.com)

## PRAYER LIST

**Roger Brownlee**—had open heart surgery and all went well. He is hoping to come home on Monday. His address is 245 W. 10th Ave. N., Wellington, KS 67152

**Kendall Brundage**—fell and broke his wrist. He is in a hard cast. His address is 1372 W. 20th Ave. N., Argonia, KS 67004

**Sherry Kline**—had a fire at her home on Tuesday. They are in the process of deciding what to do. Her address is 410 N. Park, Wellington, KS 67152

**Larry Jefferies**—is dealing with Covid 19. He & Donna live in Branson.

**Hailee Moyer**—daughter of Maria Moyer and granddaughter of Marsha Dugan, was in a bad car accident and needs prayers for healing. She will need many surgeries to repair a lot of damage. Hailee attended our youth group on and off over the last several years. She graduated this year.

**Melinda Miller**—wife of Chris Miller, was diagnosed with breast cancer and is scheduled for surgery on November 11 to remove a small lump followed by radiation treatment. She would appreciate prayers on her behalf.

## EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to Russell & Arlis Day on the passing of their sister, Myrna Beal. Myrna passed away on Saturday, November 1. Memorials have been established in her name with Carpenter Place Children's Home or the Westlink Church of Christ Missionary Fund.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marvin Kline—8th	Baylee Newberry—8th
Rahlee Colwell—10th	Brenda Kline—13th
Brandon Turney—14th	Caroline LeFlore—15th
Julia LeFlore—15th	Landon Bales—16th
MaKenna Bales—16th	Jim DeJarnett—16th
Pat Brundage—27th	Konnor Clark—30th

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are in need of volunteers for Children's Church. If you can volunteer, see Darlene Cooney.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*Be a reflection of what you'd like to see in others!*

*If you want love, give love.*

*If you want honesty, give honesty.*

*If you want respect, give respect.*

*You get in return what you give!*

**Draw the Line: Part VII, Government Authority**  
*Romans 13:1-5*

God Created 3 Institutions

1)

2)

3)

Why does God Command Us to Obey Government Authorities?

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

Notes:

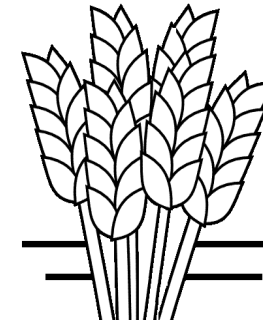


**THOSE WHO SERVE**

SUNDAY A.M.	1-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov
<b>Elder in Charge</b>	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	E. Newberry
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	B. Turney	J. DeJarnett	L. Lewis
<b>Song Leader</b>	A. Shields	A. Shields	A. Shields
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	R. Harris	M. Kline	E. Newberry
<b>Contribution Prayer &amp; Collection</b>	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce
<b>Ushers</b>	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	E. Newberry
<b>Deacon in Charge</b>	D. Pierce	D. Pierce	D. Pierce
SUNDAY A.M.	22-Nov	29-Nov	
<b>Elder in Charge</b>	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	B. Turney	J. DeJarnett	
<b>Song Leader</b>	A. Shields	A. Shields	
<b>Communion Prayer</b>	T. Norris	R. Harris	
<b>Contribution Prayer &amp; Collection</b>	W. Pierce D. Pierce	W. Pierce D. Pierce	
<b>Ushers</b>	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	A. Hines T. Kirkwood	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	E. Newberry	E. Newberry	
<b>Deacon in Charge</b>	D. Pierce	D. Pierce	

**Note concerning COVID-19:** During this month we are asking all public non-speaking participants to wear a face covering while performing their duties. This applies to ushers and to the men collecting our contribution. If you are unable to fulfill your assignment for any reason, please call the Deacon in Charge.

<b>ELDERS</b>	<b>DEACONS</b>		
Rex Harris	Marvin Kline	Kevin Dodds	Aaron Hines
Ed Newberry	Tom Norris	Leroy Lewis	Mike Neal
		David Pierce	Alan Shields
<b>MINISTER</b>			
Wes LeFlore			



*“Reaching Inward, Outward  
Upward, Downward”*

# Wellington Church of Christ

217 W. 13th St. Wellington, KS 67152 620-326-7511

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

November 8, 2020

Call to Worship

Prayer

Song #716 “Sing to Me of Heaven”

Song #731 “Take Time to Be Holy”

Song #705 “A Common Love”

Communion Prayers

Contribution Prayer

Contribution Collection

Lesson

Song #902 “Nothing But the Blood”

Closing Prayer

*Every Sunday during the sermon we offer Children’s Church to boys and girls ages 3 years through 2nd grade. They will meet in the study for stories, crafts and learning about Jesus.*