

CHURCH OF CHRIST
of Genesee County
5284 Fenton Road, Flint, Michigan 48507

Schedule of Services

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|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Worship... | Sunday | 11:00 a.m. |
| | Sunday | 6:00 p.m. |
| Bible Study... | Sunday | 10:00 a.m. |
| | Wednesday | 6:00 p.m. |

June 14, 2020



Website: www.coc-gc.org

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Marty and Joyce Stearns.
Gracie, Tracy and Austin Clark.
Cindy Dobbs—heroine in the fight against COVID-19 as a healthcare worker. Pray for her often.
Joan's brother Hurley (had heart surgery this past week) and Opal, sister Christena Apostolico in Ohio—health problems, and Donna
Bill Alldaffer—encouragement
Joe Wilkerson-health
Cindy Atkinson—health. (knee), Cindy's friends-Ireland Family, Wayne Hamilton, Kathy, Jody Rynca-cancer, Mitchell Larson and Walt and Ilene Davenport—health, Marie Hall—health. Friend Jackie is in need of prayers.
Betty requests prayers for Earlene Currier-health-Betty's Aunt, Betty's daughters: Donna, Carrie, Susan Wills, Debra and Lauren Weidner-grand-daughter, Joyce Harrison—Betty's cousin
Jeff Stevens—health-undergoing tests
Chere' - request prayers for Priya and Daniel
John and Linda Schafer-wife Linda is having serious health problems and in need of prayer
Gary and Lisa Stebbins—Pray for Lisa and Gary.
Rachel Hall—health problems

Food closet: Canned Corn and Beans

SERMONS

AM: Witnesses in 1 John

PM: It's a Better Life!

JOB 19:25--JOB'S REDEEMER

Daniel F. Cates

The writer's father, Curtis A. Cates, Sr., held the book of Job dear to his heart. Over the course of his ministry he preached on and taught Job perhaps more than any other subject. As he neared the end of his life fighting cancer yet again, no doubt Dad would empathize more and more with Job and his Satanically caused plight. In fact, some two and a half decades before his passing he was already empathizing. One of Dad's former students remembered having been sent to Dad's office on some errand. He wrote, His office door was slightly opened and I slid into the office at which time I found brother Cates sitting at the end of a conference table where he was studying. HE WAS CRYING! I asked, "Brother Cates, what's the problem, can I help?" He then said to me, "Everything is okay. I was just studying about the suffering of Job" (Choate, 19).

This is mentioned for a couple of reasons: first, to demonstrate how real Job is and how touching, practical, and ultimately encouraging it is yet today--perhaps four millennia after its being penned; second, to illustrate a common trait shared by Job and by those who open and tender-heartedly study him and his book, as Dad in his classes would term it, "Job was a developing character." Job's development is shown in his growing appreciation of the role that God would ultimately play in Job's life--whether here or beyond. While Job viewed God as the culprit who had attacked him (Job 6:4; 7:20; 16:11-14); nonetheless, Job viewed God as doing justice (Job 1:21; 2:10) and would yet trust in God (Job 13:15) even if Job did not know why God did what He did, for Job was innocent of any sin which would merit such pain (Job 16:17; 29-31). In spite of Job's believing God was responsible, Job grew

in view of God and at first saw no one who could bridge the gap between them (Job 9:32); however, Job felt that a cut down tree could yet bud, and so could he answer a future call of God (Job 14:7-15); also Job knew his witness and record were in heaven (Job 16:19) and that God would be his salvation (Job 13:16). The most popular and most beautiful of Job's realizations is that in the text of this study; Job said, Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book! That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever! For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me (Job 19:23-27).

The two questions for our study are these: first, who is Job's redeemer; and, second, how can he "stand at the latter day upon the earth"? Who is Job's redeemer? The word for "redeemer" in Job 19:25 is the Hebrew *gaal* (גַּאֵל), a very common word in the Old Testament carrying not only the idea of redeeming (e.g., Psa. 19:14, Psa. 78:35) or ransoming (Jer. 31:11) or purchasing (Lev. 25:33) but also showing the state of the near kinsmen (e.g., Ruth 3:8,9) or simply deliverance (Psa. 119:154). The word is also used in a very negative sense, for it is used for the "avenger" or "revenger" of blood from whom man-slayers would flee to the refuge cities (Num. 35; Deu. 19; Jos. 20). The idea of this Hebrew word, then, is tied to justice both in its good (merciful) and bad (vengeful) senses (Rom. 11:22). Job's innocence--not sinless perfection, for he admitted sin--would see his not receiving future punishment but future reward. The redeemer would

need to be able to stand between him and God, and therefore would need to be an advocate, or (in Dad's term) an umpire. Only one Being could fit the requirement: a God-man. How can He "stand at the latter day upon the earth?" John 1:1,14 answer this question. John wrote, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." Because man is subject to pain and death, so--to truly know manhood--would God need to be; so Paul wrote, Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ... Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people (Heb. 2:14,17). Through the eyes of faith, Job had seen Jesus Christ! John's father Zechariah's prophecy shows beautifully the accomplishment of justice in the coming of Christ, that is, in the theme of Job 19:25; he prophesied, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people, ..." (Luke 1:68).

Choate, James Ronald. "Kind, Reassuring, Tenderhearted." Cates-isms: Memories of Curtis A. Cates, Sr. Ed. Daniel F. Cates. (Memphis: Memphis School of Preaching, 2014).

I am thankful for . . .

- the wife who says it's hot dogs tonight because she is home with me and not out with someone else.
- the husband who is on the sofa being a couch potato because he is home with me and not out at the bars.
- the teenager who is complaining about doing dishes because it means she is at home, not on the streets.
- the taxes I pay because it means I am employed.
- the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.
- the clothes that fit a little too snugly because it means I have enough to eat.
- my shadow that watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine, and for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a house.
- all the complaining I hear about the government because it means we have freedom of speech.

- the parking spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking and have been blessed with transportation.
- my huge heating bill because it means I am warm.
- the lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means I can hear.
- the pile of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.
- weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been capable of working hard.
- the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means I am alive.

—submitted by Frances Shipp, Weaver, Alabama
From House to House Heart to Heart

**Count your blessings;
Name them one by one.
Count your blessings;
See what God hath done.
Count your blessings;
Name them one by one.
Count your many blessings;
See what God hath done.**

Psalm 25:4
*“Shew me thy
ways, O
LORD; teach
me thy paths.”*