

*Elim Covenant Church*

*January 3, 2016*



*You crown  
the year  
with your  
bounty.*

Psalm 65:11

# WORSHIP CELEBRATION

January 3, 2016

**“To have faith is to trust yourself to the water. When you swim you don’t grab hold of the water, because if you do you will sink and drown. Instead you relax, and float.”**

Alan Watts

## GATHERING BEFORE GOD

*We are invited into the presence of God!*

*\*Please turn your cell phones off\* Please sign the register book & pass it on.*

### PRELUDE

#### HYMNS OF PRAISE

Linda Gilmour    Worship Facilitator

Hymn #159

*“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

Hymn #164

*“Away in a Manger”*

Hymn #148

*“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

### GREETING ONE ANOTHER

## HEARING FROM GOD

We give our attention to God by opening our lives to His Word! We invite God’s Spirit to take this Word into our lives that we might be formed into the image and likeness of Jesus!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Hermann

### MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

**“The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”**

(1 Timothy 1:5)

### CHILDREN’S SERMON

*(Children dismissed for Children’s Church, please for ages 3 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade only).*

### WORDS FROM GOD

Matthew 18:15-20

*Scripture Reader, Tasha Munger*

(Pages 1028 or 974 in the red Bibles)

## **MESSAGE**

**“Faith Overhaul: #1 – Forgiveness”**

**Pastor Steve Peterson**

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

Now that God has spoken to us, it is time for us to speak to Him!

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Call to Communion

#878 The Apostles’ Creed

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

### **OFFERTORY**

### **OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

## **BEING SENT BY GOD**

God sends us out into the world that he desperately loves.

His presence goes with us.

We leave as God’s agents of grace and mercy.

### **HYMN #167**

*“The First Noel”*

### **BENEDICTION**

#### ***Scripture Readings for the Week***

*Sunday*

*Colossians 2:6*

*Monday*

*Galatians 3:3*

*Tuesday*

*Colossians 2:7*

*Wednesday*

*1 Peter 4:10*

*Thursday*

*2 Peter 3:18*

*Friday*

*Galatians 6:18*

*Saturday*

*2 Corinthians 8:9*

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**TODAY’S GREETERS**

Maxine Barnes & Tasha Munger

**HEAD USHER**

Gary Wells

**USHERS**

Felipe Cantu, Tom Dang & Sandy Parrott

**SOUND SYSTEM**

Josh Parrott

# “Faith Overhaul: #1- Forgiveness”

## Matthew 18:15-20

**Key Text:** *“Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you”* (Col. 3:13)

**Key Thought:** A resentful heart sabotages our faith walk, so we must pray and work to keep our hearts free from the toxicity of an unforgiving heart.

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) The danger of “heart toxicity” (cf. Lev. 19:17-18; Eph. 4:31)
- 3) God’s treatment plan
  - a. Forgiveness
    - i. Do acknowledge the hurt (even the hate)
    - ii. Do pray much
    - iii. Do consider it a process
      1. Don’t allow yourself to be pressured into it
      2. Don’t try to forget, instead of trying to forgive
      3. Don’t excuse, instead of forgive
      4. Don’t tolerate, instead of forgive
  - b. Reconciliation “Do’s and Don’ts”
    - i. Do lead the way (cf. Lev. 19:17; Mt. 18:15) (i.e. don’t wait for them to initiate)
    - ii. Do get help from mentors (cf. Mt. 18:16-17)
    - iii. Do distance yourself, if the other party isn’t responsive and repentant (cf. Mt. 18:18; Lk. 17:3)
      1. Don’t smother conflict
      2. Don’t fail to “bury the hatchet” (Ps. 103:12; 1 Cor. 13:5)
      3. Don’t lower your guard, if the other person is untrustworthy (cf. Pr. 2:12-15; 4:14; 21:10; 22:5)
- 4) The blessings of a “pure heart” (cf. Ps. 24:3-4; Pr. 4:23; Mt. 5:8)
- 5) Conclusion

### Questions for Reflection

- Is your heart “healthy” in the area of forgiveness? Or do you have some “toxicity” in your heart toward others?
- Will you commit to work toward forgiveness and reconciliation?
- Do you need help from someone (i.e. Pastor Steve, or another church leader) in this process of forgiveness?

## PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

**Praises: Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Josh Collins!!**

**Prayer Concerns: 2016!!**

**Extreme winter weather/the homeless.**

**Families who have recently lost loved ones. Our shut-ins.**

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### **Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:**

Juna Wortz, Arlene Miller, Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Margaret Hasty, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Marj Nelson, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Mindy Allison, Jay & Judie Stanley, John & Linda Hutchison, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, Ann Seyller, Joy Wright, Pennie Knary, families that have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

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### **Prayer Notes:**

#### **Prayer Following Worship**

Please feel free to take your burden or praise to one of the Elim Prayer Team members available to pray with you. Team members include: Julie, Linda, Carolyn, Juanita, & Tasha and can be easily found at the back of the sanctuary in the northeast classroom.

#### **Monday Evening Prayer Gathering**

Each Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. there is a prayer gathering held at Elim. You are encouraged to come and pray with the team members and share your requests/praises.

#### **Prayer Chain**

The prayer network is used when special needs arise during the week. Call Judy at the church 764-6920 Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. otherwise call or text Tasha Munger @ (309) 281-8784 with your request. If no answer, you may leave your concern on the answer machine and it will be relayed ASAP.

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Happy New Year  
**2016**



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**SPLASH!**

**The next meeting for the  
S.P.L.A.S.H. ladies will be  
held on Saturday,  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
(weather permitting)  
from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**



## LOOKING AHEAD

Sun.	Jan. 3	9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon.	Jan. 4	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue.	Jan. 5	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed.	Jan. 6	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00-7:30 p.m. SPARK & AXIS 7:30-9:00 p.m. Fusion
Thurs.	Jan. 7	9:00 a.m. Keenagers Coffee Time/Bible Study
Sun.	Jan. 10	9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon.	Jan. 11	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tues.	Jan. 12	5:30 p.m. MLT Meeting 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed.	Jan. 13	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00-7:30 p.m. SPARK & AXIS 7:30-9:00 p.m. Fusion
Thurs.	Jan. 14	9:00 a.m. Keenagers Coffee Time/Bible Study
Sat.	Jan. 16	9:00 a.m. Pre-Bake for Chocolate Fantasy
Sun.	Jan. 17	9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service 11:45 a.m. Collection for CF/Youth Hope
Mon.	Jan. 18	5:45 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tues.	Jan. 19	6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed.	Jan. 20	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 5:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00-7:30 p.m. SPARK & AXIS 7:30-9:00 p.m. Fusion
Thur.	Jan. 21	9:00 a.m. Keenagers
Fri.	Jan. 22	4:00 p.m. CIU – Wiborg
Sat.	Jan. 23	9:00-11:00 am S.P.L.A.S.H. Meeting (weather permitting)

### January Birthdays

7 – Victoria Fowler  
9 – Sandy Parrott  
10 – Anna Christy  
15 – Rebecca Christy  
16 – Natalie Hermann  
17 – Judie Stanley  
19 – Karter Thompson

### January Anniversaries

28 – Donald & Kathy Boggs

CIU – means Church In Use

Church office [office@elimqc.org](mailto:office@elimqc.org)  
(309) 764-6920

Church website [elimqc.org](http://elimqc.org)

Pastor's e-mail [pastor@elimqc.org](mailto:pastor@elimqc.org)

Greg's e-mail [youth@elimqc.org](mailto:youth@elimqc.org)

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 35

Worship = 102

CHILD CARE TODAY Jan. 3

NEXT WEEK Jan. 10

Nursery Lori Smith, Diana Wood (Elizabeth S.)

Leonna E., Amanda D. (Abby P.)

Jr. Church Dora Beth (Mallory B. & Michelle DeA)

Dora Beth (Cindy M., Mariah DeA.)