"Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church": Matthew 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20-21

"For all who know and love the Lord Jesus Christ, no place in the world should be sweeter or more cherished than the church. Nothing in the world is dearer to God's heart than the church; therefore, being His, let us also belong to it, that by our prayers, our gifts, and our labors, we may support and strengthen it. If those who are Christ's refrained, even for a generation, from numbering themselves with His people, there would be no visible church, no ordinances maintained, and, I fear, very little preaching of the gospel." (Charles Spurgeon)

- What is the Church (Ekklesia)? "Those who are called out" or "an assembly or congregation".
  - The Church is the community of believers that have been "called out" of their sin through faith in Christ and worship Him corporately.
  - We are "called out" by God the Father as a gift to God the Son (John 6:37, 10:28-30; 17:6 & 9 & 24). We have been "called out" from darkness into marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9-10; Colossians 1:12-14) and we are now citizens of heaven (Philippians 3:19-20).
  - The Lord is the one that adds to His church; we are simply instruments that He uses to accomplish that purpose (Acts 2:41-47; Acts 13:48-49; 1 Corinthians 3:5-9).
  - Christ has full ownership of the Church. His Word governs His church (1 Timothy 3:14-15; 2 Timothy 3:16-17). Christ is Lord of His Church (2 Corinthians 4:5). Christ is the Redeemer of His Church (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). Christ is the Head of His Church (Ephesians 5:23). Christ is the Chief Shepherd of His Church (1 Peter 5:4).
- The Visible and Invisible Church (Matthew 13:24-30; Matthew 7:21-23; Acts 20:29-30; Jude 1:4).
  - The Invisible (True) Church:
    - Exalts the Lordship of Christ (Romans 10:9-10; Philippians 2:9-10).
    - Submits to the authority of His Word.
    - Upholds the truth of the Gospel (Galatians 1:6-9; 1 Timothy 4:13-16; 2 Timothy 2:1-3).
- The Universal and the Local Church:
  - The Universal Church is everyone who is saved; The Local Church:
    - Equips believers through the preaching and teaching of the Word.
    - Leads them in corporate praise and worship.
    - Protects the flock with godly Elders who lead and practice oversight.
    - Provides the flock opportunities of servanthood.
    - Provides the environment for the flock to thrive and mature (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 2:2-3; 1 Peter 4:8-11).
- The Church and Israel (Romans 11:25-26; Daniel 9:24-27; Romans 9:6; Galatians 6:12-16).
  - God is currently working through the Church (Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:11).
  - The Church shares in the blessings of the New Covenant (Hebrews 8:7-13, 9:15).
  - God will eventually turn His attention back to Israel (Acts 1:6-7; Romans 11:25-26).

Worship: So I Will Trust You (Sovereign Grace Music)Psalm 18 (Citizens)Grace and Peace (Sovereign Grace Music)Closing Song: He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band)

## Announcements:

**\*Fellowship:** EVERY Sunday, immediately following the service, we invite everyone to stay and join us for fellowship in the gym! Bring your dinner with you to church or go get dinner for yourself after the service and come back to join us for a time of fellowship together. We will be socially distancing as we sit together in the gym. Masks are required when you are up and moving around the gym.

\*\*NEXT Sunday, February 14th, we will be having a Pizza Dinner together immediately following the service. If you plan on staying for dinner and fellowship that night, please bring a pizza or have a pizza delivered to the church to share with everyone who is staying. Our desire is to start working back towards having our regular fellowship dinners together. <u>We will still be social distancing and taking precautions with masks and gloves for distributing food.</u>

**\*Volunteers Needed:** We have a wonderful opportunity for our church members to get involved in serving our church body in the CHILDREN'S MINISTRY. Our volunteers for the Children's Ministry serve <u>once every five weeks</u>. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please talk to Kalen and Courtney!

**\* Evangelism Class:** Our next round for the Evangelism Class will be February 20th and 27th (the last two Saturdays of February). If you didn't get to participate in the January class and want to sign up for the February one, the sign-up list on the back table! The class is limited to 10 people! **\*This is the last week to sign up for the February class!**\* **\* Revelation Class:** We are wanting to start our Revelation Class up again very soon. There is a sign-up list on the back

table for anyone who is interested in participating! **\*This is the last week to sign up for this class!**\*

**\*Baptisms:** Our next Baptism Service will be in two weeks, Sunday, February 21st. If you are interested in or have any questions about being baptized, please see Pastor Jeremey, Pastor Joel, or Elder Richard!