

COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



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The Correspondent

September 20, 2026

The Manifold Wisdom of God

Renn Ferguson

The church occupies a very important position in the life of a Christian. It is the body of Christ to which we were added when we obeyed the gospel (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, Galatians 3:27). While the church may be important to us as individuals, its importance extends far beyond this world.

We read in Ephesians 3:10, "So that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places." (ESV) Here we see that is through the church the wisdom of God is made known. What is this wisdom and to whom is it revealed?

The wisdom under consideration here is discussed from 2:11 to 3:6. Ephesians 3:6 adequately summarizes the point, "This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." God had always intended on bringing Jews and Gentiles together in Christ. It was not until the time of Jesus and the Apostles that this was fully revealed. This is why it is here referred to as a mystery. The church is the instrument God used to demonstrate His plan of salvation for all mankind.

To whom does the church reveal such things? It is true that through the preaching of the gospel this great mystery is revealed to men by the church today. However, another point seems to be made here. The church is said to make known the wisdom of God to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. The phrase "heavenly places" is used in reference to the spiritual and spiritual beings throughout this letter (compare 1:3, 2:6, 6:12, etc.) This then brings to mind 1 Peter 1:12, "it was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look." When the prophets prophesied of the coming Messiah, they did not understand how or when God would accomplish His plan. The angels, as we see here, did not understand either. That is, until the coming of Jesus and the establishment of His church. God taught the angels of His infinite wisdom through His people, the church.

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! (Romans 11:33) Let us praise God for allowing us to be a part of His great plan!

9:00 AM

October 10, 2026

Grocery Giveaway



October 25

Shults Lewis Child

& Family Services

Commodity Donation Drive



For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth. 1 Thessalonians 1:8

FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

- I. Is Possible Through Jesus- Ephesians 2:1,5, 2 Timothy 1:9, Romans 5:11, 2 Corinthians 5:19
- II. Is Entered by Obedience- Hebrews 8:11, 11:6, Acts 17:30, 1 Corinthians 10:1-2, Galatians 3:27
- III. Is Strengthened by Faithfulness- 1 John 1:6-7, James 4:8, 1 Peter 2:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18, 1 Peter 5:7
- IV. Is Sustained by God- Philippians 2:12-13, Hebrews 13:20-21

Worship Service

Announcements

Song: 866 I Will Call upon the Lord

Song: 200 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah (Vs. 1, 3)

Prayer

Song: 495 O the Depth and the Riches

Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 216 He Leadeth Me (Vs. 1, 3, 4)

Song: 627 The Gloryland Way

Scripture Reading: 1 John 1:1-4

Sermon

Song: 538 Prepare to Meet Thy God (Vs. 1, 2, 4)

Song: 637 The Last Mile of the Way (Vs. 4)

Prayer

1 John 1:1-4

O C M R E H T A F L F E T E Y
S K T S I R H C Y D D F G L H
T D W H F E I O J B E I E R R
N D I D I C G N F E T L N L M
E B T J D E J C E H S L L L O
S E N O N I I E E L E U T S E
C G E Y N N L R R R F F S E A
O I S N E S D N A H I D C S F
Y N S A E D E I L E N H N N N
E N M C E O L N C A A S D E F
B I L F E R D G E R M I D D T
L N A L W S N E D D J E U H T
F G N O T L A R S O A D L I R
S U R O F S H E R E E I F E U
E D E K E E L H I H L E H S L
Y Y T E W E D R D S R N A S Y
E F E D E N O E E E A R K S A
I P I H S W O L L E F N Y I O

BEGINNING
HEARD
SEEN
EYES
LOOKED
HANDS
HANDLED
CONCERNING
WORD
LIFE
MANIFESTED
WITNESS
DECLARE
ETERNAL
FATHER
FELLOWSHIP
TRULY
JESUS
CHRIST
JOY
FULL

1 John 1:1-4 (NKJV)

- ¹ That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life ---
- ² the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us ---
- ³ that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

Why Worship?

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23