

## The Order of Worship

Opening Song	Holy, Holy, Holy
A Prayer of Praise	Highlight Attribute <i>Omniscience</i>
Scripture Reading	II Peter 1:1-2
A Prayer for the Nations*	Libya
Affirmation of Faith	
Congregational Song	His Mercy is More
A Prayer for the Lost	
Congregational Song	I Know Whom I Have Believed
Sermon:	II Peter 1:1-2

There is no freedom of speech, no freedom of religion and very limited possibility of public church life in Libya. Although there are around 34,500 Christians in the country, only a tiny number (approximately 150) are Libyan—the majority are expatriate and migrant workers.

Libyan Christians from a Muslim background face violent and intense pressure from their family and the wider community to renounce their faith. They—as well as foreign Christians—are also vulnerable to abduction or murder by Islamic militant groups and organized crime groups.

Sharing your faith publicly is illegal in Libya, and those who try to share their Christian faith with others risk violent opposition and arrest. Without a central government, the country is effectively in a state of lawless anarchy. There is little chance of legal justice when Christians are attacked or killed.  
Opendoorsusa.org

*4,761 Christians worldwide have been killed so far this year for their belief in Jesus.*

## Prayer Requests

Mary Ann Cooper	Barry Wilson
Josh Howard	Rita Stewart
Teachers/Schools	Danette Roberson
Shirley Pruet	Frank White
Situation in Afghanistan	

## Announcements

### **Fundraisers** (See Margie Thompson for Details)

Oct 9 <sup>th</sup>	Rummage Sale
Nov 21 <sup>st</sup>	Farmer's Market
Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Cookie Walk
Jan 16 <sup>th</sup>	Chili Lunch
Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine Cookie Cake

### **Explorer's Bible Study**

Tuesday Mornings and Wednesday Evenings

**The Brethren of Emory** (See Joel Barrett)

**Choir will begin in September.**

=====  
47% of unchurched people say they would speak to a friend about the gospel. Even more would be willing, if they saw believers living their faith in public.

## II Peter 1:1-2

Estimates are that the Apostle Peter died in 64-68AD during the reign of Emperor Nero. His name is closely associated with the fire that decimated the city. Peter was in Rome at that time and wrote II Peter in that time frame and executed afterwards. Historians have debated Nero's role in the starting of the fire being blamed on Christians. Regardless, Christian persecution did heighten during and after Nero's reign. One thing is for sure, fake news existed then as well. Combating fake news comes from knowing \_\_\_\_\_. Peter's 2<sup>nd</sup> epistle is all about that word, knowing. It occurs some 16x in this short epistle. The Greek word for "knowledge" is γνῶσις gnosis. Those who are uncommitted to the knowledge of a thing are called \_\_\_\_\_. Peter, however, wants us to know about our salvation, our sanctification, our Scriptures and the Second Coming.

### **Introduction**

- A. The Author
- B. The Date/Place of Writing
- C. The Purpose of the Book
- D. The Opponents

### **The Greeting**

We tend to wait to the end but ancient authors identified themselves early. Peter even used the Semitic spelling of his name to clearly do this. He then uses two descriptions: slave and apostle. That word slave reveals Peter understood he had no inherent \_\_\_\_\_, at the disposal of God, obedient to and in the service of Him.

He also called himself an apostle. He understood he had been appointed with authority to write Scripture, to found churches and had direct contact with Jesus. Peter understood that \_\_\_\_\_ was vital for him. It's still vital for us today as well. We are daughters and sons of the High King of Heaven but we, too, are His slaves.

### **Addressees**

He wrote to those who received a \_\_\_\_\_ with equal standing, or, as precious as the faith he possessed. Faith can be a set of facts, like the Affirmation of Faith. Vital truths are found at the end of verse 1. These truths affirms the deity of Jesus Christ, a doctrine that is seemingly attacked with each generation and how a person becomes a child of God. Remember: only 2 religions....

### **Salutation**

Peter's desire is that the grace and peace of God be multiplied to them. (It would be the same today). When God's people understand His grace, they live in His peace. The way these things come to pass is through the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Scriptures.