Church of Christ PO Box 426 Exeter, CA 93221 www.exeterchurchofchrist.org Wi-Fi Password: John317!

Steave Gipson, Minister steaveg@outlook.com Church Office: 592-2909 Cell 559-284-0090

### **MEETING TIMES**

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

Elders: Wayne Hardcastle, Ron Marks, Sergio Cercado, Melvin Nalls, & Tony Lawton Deacons: Rick Rossner & Larry Thompson

### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Give online at exeterchurchofchrist.org or mail them to

ECC • P.O. Box 426 • Exeter, CA 93221

**Elders meeting** 3rd Tuesday of each month. Everyone is welcome to attend April 15th



April 20th 9:00 am

Easter Sunday Brunch

Please join us. There will be a sign up sheet in the foyer.

Add your name and number of people attending.

Monthly Singing April 26th Visalia Community Church of Christ

Men's Breakfast April 26th. Congregation to be determined.



**Birthdays**Richard Pfeifer April 6
Sergio Cercado April 17





# EXETER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sharing the love of Christ, growing in relationship to Christ and one another, and serving God by serving others



The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

Nahum 1:7

April 13, 2025
320 E. Firebaugh, Exeter CA 93221 • 592-2909

# Order of Worship

Sunday April 13, 2025

Share Time: Richard Pfeifer Song Leader: Rick Rossner

Opening Song: Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Songs: Hosanna

Hosanna, You're My King

Hear, O Israel

Morning Prayer: Sergio Cercado

Mid-Service Songs: There is a Redeemer

Communion Prayer

Communion/Offering: Jesse Gipson

After Communion Song: I Love You Lord

**Sermon:** Steave Gipson

Song of Invitation: This is My Father's World

Closing Prayer: Tony Lawton

# Keep in Prayer

**Darlene Hardcastle**– Please put baby Zoey back in your prayers. They are waiting to re-check her heart in a couple of months to see if there has been any improvement.

Ida Mae- Having headaches again. Seeing a neurologist soon.

Ron Marks Is home. Continue to pray for his recovery.

**Melvin Nalls**- Recovering from Valley Fever and now has bacterial meningitis

**Sergio's Friends Alfred Barajas and Benny Morales** – Both facing the possibility of losing a foot.

Vickey Burchfield is dealing with depression

Sergio Cercado is dealing with chronic back issues.

Barbara Bream — Chronic medical issues.

## Tammy's Touch

One part of Jesus' crucifixion (and the events leading up to it) that I haven't really ever paused to think about is in John 18.

Jesus is in the Garden of Gethsemane at night, when Judas, a large group of soldiers, and religious officials come to arrest Him.

Along with the army of men, they brought lanterns, torches and weapons, clearly expecting there to be a battle or at least some resistance in arresting Jesus.

Instead they are met with none of that but a man who comes out in plain sight, willing to be arrested.

"Then Jesus, knowing everything that was about to happen to him, went out and said to them, 'who is it that you are seeking?' 'Jesus of Nazareth', they said."

It's the next part I've missed:

Jesus answers, "I am He".

At those words, all these men "stepped back and fell to the ground". Not because Jesus was intimidating, but because His mere breath speaking His divine identity makes them collapse.

The holiest of names.

The God whose glory is beyond our comprehension.

Just as God spoke to Moses when Hs asked God for His name, "And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

I'm just reminded, as I prepare my heart for Holy Week and Easter, that Jesus didn't lose His life.

He surrendered it.

With one word He could have defeated all those men. He easily could have escaped. He could have killed them all.

They couldn't even stand up at the sound of His voice.

But He laid His life down, voluntarily.

He didn't "accept His fate" because He had to. He chose to initiate His death.

And it always comes back to this..

He did it for us.

Chose it for us.

Loved us enough to push His power aside and die a humiliating, excruciating death.

He could have done it differently.

But He never would have.

He's the good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep.... Kelli Bachara