IMITATE CHRIST

2023 CONGREGATIONAL THEME LAWRENCEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

"And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another..."

January	"Imitate Christ" (Introduction)
February	His Love for God
March	His Love for Others
April	His Holiness
May	His Humility & Service
June	His Peace & Joy
July	His Boldness & Courage
August	His Longsuffering & Patience
September	His Spiritual Focus
October	His Determination
November	His Sacrifice
December	His Triumph

IMITATE CHRIST

His Holiness

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"He appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin" (1 John 3:5).

Jesus "knew no sin" (2 Cor. 5:21).

"You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matt. 5:48).

[13] Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. [14] As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, [15] but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, [16] since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:13 - 2:25

1. Holiness is motivated by hope. (1:13; 17-21)

2. Holiness is accomplished by obedience.

(1:14; 22-23; 2:1-2; 8b-12)

3. Holiness is made possible by Christ. (2:20-25)

Grace in Christ

"My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1).

"If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:6-9).

Grace in Christ

"Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:14-16).

Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.