

Proud to Serve in Worship

Opening Prayer	February 28, 2021	March 7, 2021
Song Leader	Joe Holloway Sr	Wade White
Communion	Joe Burnsed	Joe Burnsed
Assist	Barry Blackburn	Joe Burnsed
Dismiss Services	Wade White	Kenneth Jenks
	Charles Hall	Joe Holloway Sr

#### Announcements

Calendar for March – on the table in the foyer

Super Sunday – TODAY!!!

Save Food Pantry Items, Cans, peanut butter

Bookmark our Facebook page. And add [EllabellChurchofChrist@hotmail.com](mailto:EllabellChurchofChrist@hotmail.com) to your contact list. Brother Paulasksthatyousimplyemailhimanythingyouwant to appear on the Facebook page; pictures, announcements, etc.

CallList–There are forms on the back table if you want to be added to our call list. If you want a call made, call me or text me and I will make the call and schedule it. 912-667-0519

PrayerList–There is a form on the back table to add names to the prayer list.

Worship Services Online–Go to our website and there is a link at the bottom. Join us from anywhere in the world online. Subscribe to our You Tube channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5OdoHWTNUba\\_av5NqR\\_Vfg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5OdoHWTNUba_av5NqR_Vfg)

Worship Zoom Meetings – add your email and you will get an email when we have services

<https://www.ellabellchurchhome.org/worshipservicesonline.htm> and



## Ellabell Church of Christ

I can do all  
Things through  
Him Who  
strengthens me.  
-Philippians 4

February 28, 2021

Speaking Where The Bible  
Speaks; Silent Where The Bible  
Is Silent

<https://www.ajc.com/news/state-regional-govt-politics/low-bridge-not-many-savannah-think-talmadge>

## Seeing the Love of God

Philip C. Strong

“No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us,” [1John 4:12](#). The word “perfected” is translated from the Greek word *teleioo*, and can be defined as “to bring to the end (goal) purposed” ([Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon](#); def.3). So? While we cannot “see” God, His love is brought to its intended goal when we, as Christians made so through obedience to Christ, love one another. This *manifestation* of God we can, and certainly *should*, see! But *brotherly love* is not the only way to “see” the *unseen* and indeed *invisible* (cf. [Colossians 1:15](#)) God...

We also can “see” the love of God through:

- **His Creation.** We can discern the *existence* of God through His creation, cf. [Romans 1:18-20](#). This *natural revelation* is abundantly visible through our own bodies, and the world/universe around us. But God could have created a utilitarian world in monochrome- one that would have sustained us *physically* without the beautiful wonders with which He infused it. However, note carefully the description of the Garden paradise He

fashioned for man, “*And out of the ground the Lord God caused to grow every tree that is **pleasing to the sight and good for food,**” [Genesis 2:9](#). Through the creation of a world that not only sustains us, but also is esthetically pleasing and awe-inspiring, we “see” the love of God!*

- **His Salvation through Jesus Christ.** There is no more visible manifestation of the love of God than the salvation afforded mankind through Jesus. Such was the eternal disposition of God for mankind. The plan of saving mankind through Him was present before the world was formed, before man was created, and before the need for salvation from sin existed, *cf.* [Ephesians 1:3-4](#). And then, “*when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons,*” [Galatians 4:4-5](#). Thus Paul writes, “*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us,*” [Romans 5:8](#). The word translated as “*demonstrates*” can also mean to *show, prove, establish, or exhibit* ([IBID](#), def.3a). Through the plan and its fruition to save mankind from our sins by the sacrifice of His own Son, God’s love is both *proven* and *shown* to be beyond comparison!
- **His Provision of the Word.** What a dark and dreadful world it would be without the loving provision of God’s word to guide and illumine us! I’ve often said that I feel sorry for those who don’t believe the Bible to be God’s infallible guide. What a tremendous burden it must be to have no finite rules for determining right and wrong, good and evil, and worthy and unworthy! These folks have to establish such things on their own with no help from any higher authority. What a pitifully burdened and woefully tiring existence it must be in such darkness for those who reject the loving provision of “*the living and abiding word of God,*” [1Peter 1:22-25](#)!

- **His Provision of the Church.** God’s love is manifested for us through the *brethren* He provided to (from [Romans 12:9-16](#)): *love us genuinely; help us abhor evil and cleave to good; be devoted to us in brotherly love; give us examples of fervency in spirit and service to the Lord; help us rejoice in hope and persevere in tribulation; be devoted in prayer for us; contribute to our needs; practice hospitality to/for us; and rejoice with us in good times and weep with us in times of tragedy.* What a wonderful provision of God’s love to provide us with the very best people of the world to help, guide, and sustain us!
- **His Patience, Forbearance, and Longsuffering.** I’ve had the privilege of knowing and being associated with some of the most patient, forbearing, longsuffering, and forgiving people on the planet. But in these regards, none of them compare to God. Indeed, these supreme attributes of our loving God are the only reason that this evil world remains, *cf.* [2Peter 2:9](#). Likewise, “*the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience*” is a very visible manifestation of His loving kindness that “*leads you to repentance,*” [Romans 2:4](#). Or at least it is supposed to do so! It boggles my mind to consider the patient forbearance God has shown me. What about you?

It is true that we cannot see God, but His loving provisions for us are hard not to see! As one of my preaching mentors, Dean Bullock, used to say, “You’d have to have help to miss that- you just can’t miss it by yourself!” “*But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear,*” [Matthew 13:16](#).

