

## A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

In 2016 the candidate for president coined a phrase: “*drain the swamp*”. It caught on because a lot of people thought (and still think) our government bureaucracy is bloated, entrenched and unresponsive. That isn’t new. Throughout history people have thought that the powers above them (government of whatever kind) exist in their own world, not the world of the common people. And they’ve been right.

Despite his good intentions, and despite winning the election in 2016, the swamp did not get drained. Instead, the swamp creature woke up and the whole country has been in a cataclysmic spasm for 6 years. A few weeks ago 30 agents dressed in helmets, body armor and assault weapons executed a special-forces-like pre-dawn raid against a private residence. The swamp is roaring and its message is clear. “*We are not going away and your days are numbered.*”

Let’s take this up a notch. In Revelation 5 the Lamb takes the scroll from the One sitting on the throne while all Heaven rejoices. Turn the page to Revelation 6, watch the swamp creature wake up and the blood begin to flow. Do not misunderstand: 2016 did not start the Apocalypse. *But Earth has been a battleground since Eden and there are no signs of change.* A businessman, even one with 4.7 billion dollars and a big mouth, facing off against a government in love with its power and position is a David and Goliath story all over again. And it still isn’t looking good for David.

The first David looked unimpressively small and young. He was an undersized teenager facing off against an over-sized predator, a shepherd against a mountain-man. The Son of David stood up to Jerusalem and Rome, a no-name Rabbi against the entrenched world order. And He fought like a Lamb.

*Heaven rejoices when the swamp is in convulsions.* Why do you suppose that is? (Hint: Don’t think red states and blue states.)

# Welcome

September 4, 2022



*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way.”*

### SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM  
Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM  
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;  
Youth & Kid’s Club  
Prayer ½ hour before services

*THEOLOGICAL SEED*

*Isaiah 1:7, 18-20*

Your country *is* desolate, your cities *are* burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence; and *it is* desolate, as overthrown by strangers. “Come now, and let us reason together,” says the LORD, “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword”; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*



**Sunday Evening Prayer** – 6 to 7 PM.

**Wednesday Bible Study** – John 17. Come as we learn how Jesus prays for His own.

Kid's Club & Youth in the basement, learning about the Lord.

**Special Prayer Request** – we are believing God for the finances for a new air conditioning and heating until for the sanctuary. The cost has been estimated at \$14,000. Please help us pray that God will provide.

**VBS** – special thanks to all those who helped and made our ministry a great success. God bless all!

**Men's Ministry** – will meet Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM at the Schodack Diner, 1842 Columbia Tpke, Castleton On Hudson, NY 12033. All men are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Flagging Practice** – Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.

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