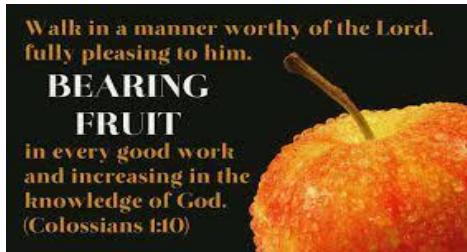




## THE OFFERING, OFFERTORY Dawson, Organ

“Greensleeves”

Bill



Next Sunday: July 17, 2022 – Rev. Ted Althouse

SERMON TOPIC: “I’m Alone...or Am I?”  
Scripture Reference: *Selected Bible Verses*

*Both Altar Flower Arrangements are presented by Nancy Oaks in loving memory of her husband Darren Oaks.*

*“Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all.”*

*– George Washington*

*‘But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.’*

*– Psalm 1:2-3*

*‘The Christian needs to walk in peace and bears God’s fruit, so no matter what happens they will be able to bear witness to a watching world.’*

*– Henry Blackaby*



JoAnn Ahern, Rev. Ted Althouse, Edwin Basler, Carol Cessna, Catherine “Kay” Butler (Cheryl Spence Sister), Diana Hoatson (Linda Brown sister), Jim & Pat Daniels, Cal Eells, Richard and Rosemary Ericson, Cindy Fiska, Rhonda Hotlzclaw & family, Cyndi Koski, Glenda Lemay, Karrie

Lyn, Jack McCarthy, Helen McDermott, Pat Rhoda, Bill Sadd, Dot Streck, Aline Wolf, and all other individuals who need God’s healing touch. **Pray For Healing And Peace Of Our Country Under The Siege Of Gun Warfare And Ending of Ukrainian War.**

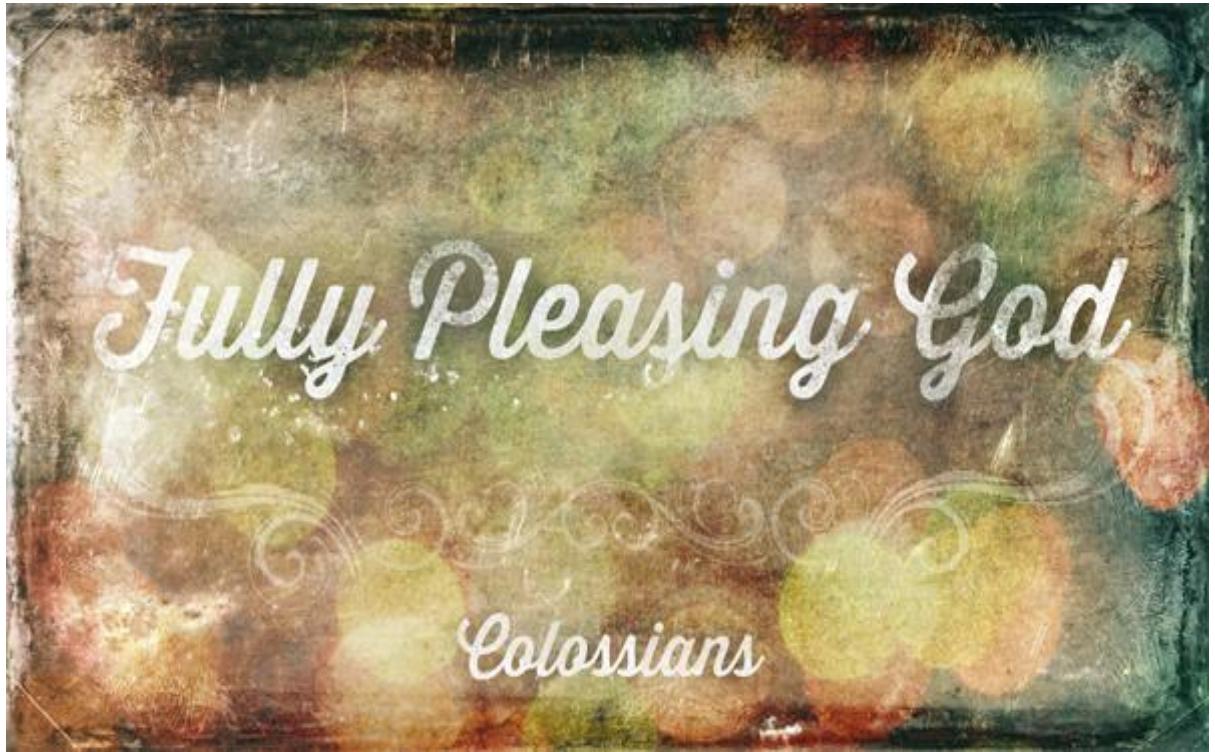
### DOES GOD TEST US?

In both the Old and New Testaments, the word “test” means “to prove by trial and error.” Therefore, when God tests us, His purpose is to prove that our faith is real. Not that God needs to prove it to Himself since He knows all things, but He is proving to us that our faith (fruits of his knowledge) is

real, that we are truly His children, and that no test/trial will overcome our faith. The apostle James goes on to say that testing is a blessing because, when the testing is over and we have “stood the test; “we will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him” (James 1:12). Testing comes from our heavenly Father who works all things together for the good for those who love Him and who are called to be the children of God. “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28). The testing or trials we undergo come in various ways. Becoming a Christian will often require us to move out of our comfort zones and into the unknown. Perseverance in testing results in spiritual maturity and completeness. This is why James wrote, “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds” (James 1:2). The testing of faith can come in small ways and daily irritations; they may also be severe afflictions and attacks from Satan. “So, Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head.” (Job 2:7). Whatever the source of the testing, it is to our benefit to sometimes undergo the trials that God allows to know and feel HE is with us. The account of Job is a perfect example of God’s allowing one of His saints to be tested by the devil. Job bore all his trials patiently and “did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing” (Job 1:22). However, the account of Job’s testing is proof that Satan’s ability to try us is limited by God’s sovereign control. No demon can test or afflict us beyond what God has ordained if we are a part of earthly family and believe in Him. All our trials work toward God’s perfect purpose and to our own benefit and others. When we experience the storms of life, we should be like the tree that digs its roots ever more deeply for a greater grip in the earth. **As a Christian, we must “dig our roots” more deeply into God’s Word, prayer and cling to His promises so we can weather whatever storms come against us.** Most comforting of all, we know that God will never allow us to be tested beyond what we are able to handle by His power. His grace is sufficient for us, and His power is made perfect in our weakness. “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.” (2 Corinthians 12:9). Tests in Life? Yes, because we live in a sin-filled world! But remember, we are never alone...God is with us always through every test.

IF EMERGENCY OR ANY OTHER PASTORAL CARE IS REQUIRED,  
CONTACT REV. TED ALTHOUSE: 239-850-3943 (Cell-Preferred) 239-433-0754 (Fax)  
Email: [revtedalthouse@aol.com](mailto:revtedalthouse@aol.com) Or [cypresscovechpl@aol.com](mailto:cypresscovechpl@aol.com)





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*the*  
**CHAPEL**  
*of*  
**CYPRESS**  
**COVE**

***“More Fruit!”***

July 10, 2022