

## St. Patrick

People generally associate St. Patrick's Day with Ireland, leprechauns, beer, and lots of green. But the true story is even more meaningful. Who was Patrick? He was born in 385AD in Roman Britannia, today known as Dumbarton, Scotland. He wrote in his autobiography:



*My name is Patrick. I am a sinner, a simple country person, and the least of all believers. I am looked down upon by many. My father was Calpornius. He was a deacon; his father was Potitus, a priest, who lived at Bannavem Taburniae. His home was near there, and that is where I was taken prisoner. I was about sixteen at the time. Six years passed and Patrick had a vivid dream which showed him an escape route. Emboldened, Patrick escaped and walked over 200 miles to the shoreline. As he approached the docks, a British ship stood waiting. The sails unfurled and Patrick was home. But he didn't stay long.*

Before he was a prisoner, his faith meant little to him. That changed during his captivity. His previously weak faith was strengthened during his slavery, and he committed to his faith in earnest. He became a priest and soon felt burdened for the people who had kidnapped him. So he returned to Ireland with a mission.

Patrick wanted pagan Ireland to convert to Christ. This did not set well with Loegaire, the pagan king of Ireland. People threatened Patrick's life, so he started carrying a dagger. Yet, he did not give up. Eventually the king converted and Patrick baptized him, and much of Ireland followed. A later legend said that Patrick rid Ireland of snakes, but this probably references Patrick ridding Ireland of pirates and barbarianism by bringing a whole new Christian ethic. A New York Times' bestselling book's premise is that St. Patrick saved civilization in Ireland. Patrick would come to be known as the "Apostle of Ireland." He planted churches as he crisscrossed Ireland. Curiously, like most of his legend, St. Patrick is not even a Catholic saint. Patrick wrote that he was a sinner, not a saint.

Legend has it that Patrick died on March 17, 461. So should believers celebrate St. Patrick's Day? If you do, you might want to consider wearing orange. Why orange? After 1798 the color of green represented Roman Catholicism and orange symbolized Protestantism—after William of Orange, the Protestant king. The holiday is certainly not to be celebrated by partying and alcoholism. But wearing orange and sharing who St. Patrick really would be an excellent way to celebrate.

So we best remember Patrick not via legends and certainly not in our culture's celebrations. Another way to remember him is by "St. Patrick's Breastplate", or a prayer for protection: Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

# Welcome to **Journey** EVANGELICAL CHURCH



Commissioning of Agape Source STM Team last Sunday, "The Orlando Five"



A member of EFCA • [efca.org](http://efca.org)  
14614 Magnolia Street, Westminster, CA 92683  
(714) 893-5500 • [JourneyEC.org](http://JourneyEC.org)

## Order of Service

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- Call To Worship ..... Elder Ron
- Worship in Music ..... Congregation
- Worship in Word..... **The Other Self Deception** .....Pastor Ted
- Worship in Response ..... Congregation
- Closing Prayer ..... Pastor Phil

## Ways to connect:

3/27: **Special Sharing** (9am, upstairs): Join us for an enriching session as our esteemed GO Partners, **Kenny and Lalaine**, will share captivating real-life stories and valuable insights for mentoring and discipleship.

3/27: **Dating Couples Group** (7:30pm): email [ted@journeyec.org](mailto:ted@journeyec.org) for more info.

3/29: **Good Friday** (7:30pm): we have a special reading plus the Lord's Supper.

3/31: **Resurrection Sunday!** Invite friends & family to this celebration.

5/5: **Parents of Youth** quarterly update meeting.

**Bulletin:** please send **announcements** and ministry **photos** to [roger@journeyec.org](mailto:roger@journeyec.org) and [amy@journeyec.org](mailto:amy@journeyec.org) by Tues. 10pm to print the following Sunday.

**eBlast:** If you'd like to receive the upcoming worship songs and bulletin weekly, email [roger@journeyec.org](mailto:roger@journeyec.org) and [amy@journeyec.org](mailto:amy@journeyec.org) with "EBLAST" in the subject.

**SERVE Donations:** Pending a facility inspection, we are suspending collection of all donations until further notice. Thank you!

### Elders <name@journeyec.org>

Cliff Char—Young Adults, Worship Music

Hiro Kono—Women, Growth

Joshua Cain—Christian Education, Youth

Peter Leung—Children, Corp. Secretary, Welcome

Phil Jen Kin—Personnel, Facilities & Property,

Rick Chou—Nominations, Pastoral Staff Search

Ron Jue—Deacons, GO Team, Legacy

Victor Wong—CFO, CIC, Vietnamese, SERVE, Hospitality

### Deacons <name@journeyec.org>

Pat Leung—lead deacon, Agnes Liu, Alan Hung, Allie

Poblete, Darryl Mu, Jeff Way, Paulah Wong, Shirley

Chun, Teresa Jue, Valerie Yee, Wesley Lin

### Staff <name@journeyec.org>

Ted Kau—Sr. Pastor, [ted@journeyec.org](mailto:ted@journeyec.org)

Paul Eng—Chinese, [pastorpaul@](mailto:pastorpaul@)

Phil Yoder—Youth, [philyoder@journeyec.org](mailto:philyoder@journeyec.org)

Peter Leung—Children's Dir., [peter@journeyec.org](mailto:peter@journeyec.org)

Roger Yee—Administrator, [roger@journeyec.org](mailto:roger@journeyec.org)

Amy Mu—Office Assistant, [amy@journeyec.org](mailto:amy@journeyec.org)

## James 1

Pastor Ted

True Faith **Endures Trials And Temptations**, James 1:1-18

Because with God's wisdom they can mature us, 1:1-8

Regardless of poverty or wealth, 1:9-11

By understanding temptation's nature, 1:12-15

By not blaming God, but relating with Him as our good Father, 1:16-18

True Faith **Hears And Does God's Word**, 1:19-2:26

By not being quick to be offended, instead seeking to understand, 1:19-20

Evidencing God's Word in us, keeping us from the self-deception of hearing only, 1:21-25

## The Self-Deception Of Doing Only

**26** *If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.* **27** *Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.*—James 1:26-27

1. **Worthless faith focuses on** \_\_\_\_\_, 1:26

Religion = the outward expression of one's inner convictions, or faith in action

Bridling our tongue related to bridling our \_\_\_\_\_, Matthew 12:34

**Last week:** don't be self-deceived by \_\_\_\_\_ works, only hearing, 1:22

**This week:** don't be self-deceived by \_\_\_\_\_ works, only doing 1:26

2. **True faith is shown by** \_\_\_\_\_ **and holiness**, 1:27

Danger: to read this as a comprehensive or reductive definition of Christianity

Three tests: self, others, world.

### For reflection and application:

- What areas of your life do you see the most transformation? Do you wish for transformation?
- How would you characterize your conversations, more about grace to others or more about your interests?
- Who do you or can you have compassion upon in your life?
- In what ways has culture consumed or stained you? How can you peel away from that?