

Welcome to  
**Harper Christian Church**  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**9:00—OPEN PRAYER MEETING** ..... West overflow room

**9:30—ADULT BIBLE STUDY** ..... Ed Hughlett, Sr.  
*"New Beginnings," A Study in Philipians*

**10:30—PRAISE & WORSHIP**

- #132—O That Will Be Glory for Me
- #255—Down at the Cross
- I've Been Redeemed
- In Moments Like These
- In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found)

**COMMUNION IS AVAILABLE ANYTIME BEFORE OR AFTER THE SERVICE IN THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE AUDITORIUM. PLEASE HONOR SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES FOR OTHERS WHO MAY HAVE CONCERNS.**

**AN OFFERING PLATE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE BY ONE OF OUR ELDERS/DEACONS IN THE CHURCH FOYER AFTER THE SERVICE.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER**

**ONE ACHORD** ..... "It is Well With My Soul"

**THE MESSAGE** ..... Pastor Ed  
*"FINDING JOY IN TIMES OF PERSECUTION," Matthew 5:10-12*

*If you are a guest, we welcome you to our service and ask that you fill out the perforated portion of this bulletin and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. Our greatest desire is for you to have a personal, spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ. He is our only hope for experiencing God's forgiveness for sin (John 3:16) and the joy that can be ours in this life (Romans 14:17).*

*If we can help you with any physical or spiritual need, feel free to contact us at 620-896-2461.*

**AUGUST**

**TODAY** .....As we look today at this final Beatitude we find a divinely composed paradox that involves the relationship between persecution and joy. Imagine how shocking it would be to hear these lines for the first time ever.

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, ...."*

One of the early Puritan commentators believed that the real reason Christ repeated himself was because this beatitude was so incredible! And he may have been right.

Until now all the Beatitudes have been given in the third person—"Blessed are **those**," and that is the way this Beatitude begins. But the repetition in verse 11 changes to the direct address of the second person—"Blessed are **you** when people insult **you**, persecute **you** ..." The repetition of the Beatitude, its personalization, and its position at the end of the list tell us that it is of supreme importance for you as well as the church. Significantly, as one author put it, "when stretched on the loom of adversity the church has repeatedly woven persecution and joy into garments of divine praise."

Mon..... **Elders/Deacons meeting** at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall and at 7 pm with a representative from Church Mutual Insurance.

Wed ..... **Youth Group** will resume on September 2nd.

**Next Sun** .... **Movie Night, 6 pm** showing, "**Tortured for Christ**." The Voice of the Martyrs presents this inspiring cinematic retelling of the testimony of VOM founder Pastor Richard Wurmbrand as written in his international bestseller *Tortured for Christ*. Filmed entirely in Romania, including in the very prison where Pastor Wurmbrand endured torture and solitary confinement, this powerful film uniquely presents the story with live action rather than interviews. The dialogue is presented in English, Romanian and Russian (with English subtitles) to hold to the authenticity of this true story.

**SEPTEMBER**

Sep 7 ..... Labor Day

Sep 13 ..... **Elders/Deacons Meeting**, 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall  
Nat'l Grandparent's Day

Sep 11 ..... Patriot Day

Sep 22 ..... First Day of Fall

Sep 23 ..... **SYATP (See You At The Pole)**, an annual student-led prayer meeting designed to encourage prayer for our nation's public schools. It begins around 7:30 am at any local school flag pole. See you at the Pole.

**SoulCare**

If you have questions about God, need spiritual guidance or would just like to pray with someone, please contact one of our prayer partners after the service. They will be located in the back of the auditorium (Northwest corner room). They have been praying for you to contact them even before today's service.

Prayer partners are especially for those who have questions about Salvation (becoming a Christ-follower), Baptism, or becoming a part of our church family.

For a digital PDF or hard copy of today's message send an email request to [harpercc@hotmail.com](mailto:harpercc@hotmail.com) or call and leave a request at (620) 896-2461.

**Restrooms, Nursery** (for preschool and under) and **Cry Room** (for mothers with active children) are located downstairs. This area provides closed circuit video broadcast of the service.

Please silence your **cell phone**.



For **hearing assistance** contact the control booth in the back of the auditorium for a personal receiver. The system is ADA compatible for hearing aids with a telephone coil (T-Switch).