

JULY 3, 2022

# CHURCH OF CHRIST



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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

*Minister, John Keith  
(304) 266-9027*

**WELCOME!**

We invite you to all of our services.

*“...the churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16)*

## THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

### **INTRODUCTION:** Revelation 2:1-7

1. Three internal sources of info: Acts 18:19-21; 19; 20:18-38; Eph. 1-6; Rev. 2:1-7
2. Birth Of The Church In Ephesus (Acts 18-20).

### **I. THE COMMISSION (2:1a).**

- A. To the Angel . . .
- B. Speculations abound re: ID of theses “angels”/ “messengers”.

### **II. THE CHARACTER (2:1b).**

- A. Identifies source of message.
- B. Description based upon vision of ch. 1. Reveals 2 facts about Jesus they needed to know:
  1. His power & protection
  2. His presence & perception

### **III. COMMENDATION (2:2-3, 6).**

- A. Jesus Knows Them (knows this church too).
- B. Jesus Knows Their Works (Eph. 1:15-16).
  1. Endured Paul’s boldness in preaching/teaching for 3 mo. (Act 19:8).
  2. Were patient; would not tolerate persistent evildoers and liars (2, 6).
  3. Did not grow weary in well-doing (3; cf. 2 Th. 3:13).
- C. Jesus Knows Their Disdain for the Deeds of the Nicolaitans (6).

### **IV. CONDEMNATION (2:4).**

- A. “First love” means “the love you had at the first.”—Now apathetic
- B. Had an appearance of godliness but had drifted from real love (cf. 1 Cor. 13:1-3).

### **V. THE CORRECTION (2:5).**

- A. Be Remembering
  1. When they were lost (**Eph. 2:1, 3, 12**).
  2. What Christ has done (**Eph. 2:13**)
  3. Their initial zeal—the excitement and thrill of those days
- B. Be Repentant—return to that first love; not apathetic —OR—
- C. Be Removed—lose ID as a church of Christ

### **VI. THE CALL (2:7a): hear! Listen! This is important!**

- A. A fave saying of Jesus (Mt. 11:15; 13:9, 43 *et al*).
- B. Each of you must make personal application.

### **VII. THE CHALLENGE (2:7b).**

- A. Jesus had warned them- unless something changed, spiritual death awaited them.
- B. If they responded to the challenge to hear—and ***overcome*** =spiritual life.
  1. Man lost the right to the Tree of Life in the garden (Gen. 3:24).
  2. The final ch. Of The Revelation pictures the Tree of Life flourishing in the Paradise of God— (Rev. 22:1-2).
  3. This is the Heavenly Eden, the realm of man’s restored state in the presence of God.

## THE SUFFERING SERVANT

From time to time I like to sit and read Isaiah 53 as a reminder of what the Man, Jesus, endured for my sins and the sins of the world—past, present, and, God-willing, future. I think sometimes we forget that Jesus took on flesh and blood, and therefore was not impervious to pain. Jesus also had feelings: He loved, He became angry at times, How did He feel about being betrayed?

Reading this prophetic passage of Scripture reminds me that Jesus knew His sojourn upon the earth was not going to be easy nor filled with the satisfaction of personal hopes where all of His desires were met. But His focus was not on Himself, but us. He had a job to do, and He did it masterfully. Read the words of the inspired prophet, Isaiah, and remember as you read that Jesus endured all of this for you—*✠*.

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is* no beauty that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked—But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor *was any* deceit in His mouth.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put *Him* to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. He shall see the labor of His soul, *and* be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors (Isaiah 53:1-12).

*Welcome! To our visitors! We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.*

**TODAY'S LESSONS**

**AM:** The church of Christ at Ephesus (Rev. 2:1-7).

**PM:** Simon Says part 1 (Matt. 16:13-16)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Linda Steele** has two pelvic fractures in addition to a broken wrist which she sustained in a fall last week. She's in a good bit of pain.
- ***Congratulations to Amanda & Lucas on their recent marriage! We are planning a money tree for them so if anyone would like to contribute, please see Demetra or Brenda before July 24th.***
- Our **Summer Series** begins this Wednesday at 6 p.m. and continues each Wednesday evening in July. Our speaker this week will be **David Kenny** from the Newcomerstown church. He will be covering Matthew 5:1-12.

**REMINDERS:**

- ❖ **John** needs one of the men to teach the Bible class on Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ❖ Those wishing to update their picture, please see **Brenda Warne**.
- ❖ Please inform **John** of any changes to the prayer list, or directory.
- ❖ Remember our library.

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)
36	53	35	34	\$1614 (\$2,420)

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Carol Mitchell, Jean Whitley.

**SHUT-INS:**  
Debbie Jones,  
Nancy Love,  
Randy Yost

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Rachell Cook (Angela Herald's friend), Tiffany Endly (Jerri Mackie's niece), Bob Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's dad), Trudy Kerby, Colleen Kiester (Mo Smith's sister), Janet Patterson, Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), Addy Reed, Rodney Reeves (Erica Cunningham's father), John Rockhold, Wilma Roe, Sidney Suttles (Diann Bachmann's friend), Bob & Marge Watson, Ukraine and remember to pray for **one another**.