Finishing 2020 with a Grateful Heart

1 Thessalonians 5:18

As we near the end of a tumultuous year, what can we remember to finish with a thankful heart?

1. My Life is Under _____ _____

2. I Am an Object of God's _____ _____

3. God is _____ and _____
   To Meet My Needs

4. God's Grace is _____ _____

TAKE HOME TRUTH

God calls us to be a _____ _____.

Coming Up
Next Week – Hebrews 5:1-10
"Highly Qualified"
December 13, Hebrews 5:11-6:3
"Let's Grow Up!"
December 20, *"Jesus, Our Prophet, Priest & King"*
December 24, Christmas Eve Service
December 29, Guest Speaker
Thurm Payton

Just a Moment with Pastor Fred

What a year this has been, eh? 2020. No one could have predicted this. It has been difficult. And yet I am reminded of the Apostle Paul in a Roman jail writing a book that mentions joy more than any other! Paul's dream was to go to Rome to preach the gospel. Instead of going to Rome as a preacher – he went as a prisoner. Illegally arrested and falsely charged his case got buried in 2 years of bureaucratic red tape. Hearing of his imprisonment the Philippians sent a gift to encourage him. Surely, he was depressed for his evangelistic ministry would be at a standstill. But Paul wasn't discouraged. *"I want you to know … that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel,"* Phil 1:12.

"Advance" describes pioneer woodcutters clearing a path. It is a military term too – engineers removing rocks and trees as they prepare a road for the advancing army. Instead of hindering the gospel's advance – Paul's imprisonment was spreading it. In fact, we learn later in the book, some had come to Christ because of it. Wow!

Joy is not the result of right circumstances but from a gospel-focus. Only eternity will reveal how this year helped in spreading the gospel. We just don't have a full picture on what God has done – and is doing right now. The right perspective is crucial. *One ship sails east; one ship sails west, regardless of how the winds blow. It is the set of the sail – and not the gale that determines the way they will go.* Is your sail set toward advancing Christ's gospel?

HOLT BAPTIST CHURCH

Fred Froman - Pastor
Mary Hayes - Administrative Assistant
Tom Davis, Fred Froman, Paul Krepps - Elders

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HOLT BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming fruitful disciples of Christ for God's Glory

"LET US COME INTO
His PRESENCE
WITH *thanksgiving*…"
- PSALM 95:2

Call to Worship

Psalm 34 - Taste & See

Testimonies: Donna Kimmel
Dave Drullinger

I Will Praise Him Still
The Love of God

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Testimonies: Mary Ann Krepps
Ron Gerard

Day by Day

Communion

All Glory Be to Christ

Benediction

THE LORD'S DAY

November 29, 2020

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen." Jude 24-25

Imagine being introduced to God the Father by Jesus Christ the Son with great joy and excitement. We do not bring achievements nor money; status or worldly riches. We come as we are; humbly because Jesus has paid it all. All glory, majesty, honor and praise to the One who gave it all.

"Welcome! You belong here!"

This Week at HBC

Saturday, December 5:

Elders & Deacons Meeting 8:00am - 10:00am
Care Packages for Shut-ins 9:30am
Lansing City Rescue Mission 6:30pm

Announcements

Deck the Halls! Immediately following the service we need volunteers to help decorate the building for Christmas. We need some to go over to the parsonage basement to bring over the poinsettias and trees. If we have enough workers, we're usually finished under an hour. Pizza has been ordered for helpers.

Children's Books are located in the foyer for purchase, $14. Please place your payment in the envelope provided.

Loving Our Shut-ins - Care packages are being assembled Saturday at 9:30am. See the suggested list of items you might donate and the list of those we want to bless. The collection box for items is located in the foyer.

City Rescue Mission Alert- Winter Preparedness. Donations are needed for coffee, Kleenex, cough drops, chapstick, insulated gloves and warm men's hats. Please place items in the marked box in the foyer.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:
Donna Kimmel November 29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:
Nick & Lois Martin November 30

Congratulations to Gina Golden on her son's recent graduation from Central Michigan University. Josh graduated Magna Cum Laude.

The Christmas Eve Service will be held on Thursday, December 24 at 5pm. The service will incorporate favorite Christmas carols and a brief gospel message.

Magnify Conference. In light of recent expressed COVID concerns and restrictions, Dr. Carson regretfully informed us that he was no longer available to speak at Magnify this year. We hope to invite him for a future year's conference. .

Ruth Hammar's address:
% Betty Hammar, 168 Beacon Point Parkway, Flushing, MI 48433.

"While it looks like things are out of control, behind the scenes there is a God who has not surrendered His authority."
~ A.W. Tozer

Prayer Requests

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2

<u>General Requests & Praise</u>

- Our nation
- COVID-19 health, safety issues & wisdom in decisions
- That we will remain steadfast in truth and not fear
- Emotional & spiritual health of those who need to quarantine
- Spiritual growth of the church
- Those pursuing ACBC certification
- Upcoming marriage of Lily Krepp's & Nate Simons, Dec 18
- For those not able to join us at this time

<u>Physical Needs</u>

- Amy DeMass - baby due anytime
- Barb Peters - cancer
- Bob Castle (Cindy Price's dad) - cancer
- Cindy Price - baby due Dec 5
- Debbie Alton (Mary Hayes' sister) - severe concussion
- Don Adcock - Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, hospice for pain
- Fred Soto (Dee Harrison's son) - cancer
- Gina Golden - continuing health concerns, diabetes
- Jack Horstman - strength
- Keeley Stehle - seizure control
- Koni Riegsecker - (friend of Tim Martin) stage IV ovarian cancer
- Laurie Horstman - wisdom for the next step
- Nic Martin - strength
- Rick Anthony - cancer
- Ruby Samuelson - at Dobie Road
- Ruth Hammar - at her daughter's in MI
- Ryan Baldwin (Barney Yeager's grandson) - hospitalized, COVID

<u>Praying Biblically - Habakkuk 1:5 & 3:19</u>

"Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. God, the Lord, is my strength; He makes my feet like the deer's; He makes me tread on high places. God the Lord is my strength, I will take joy in the God of my salvation."