



# THE MESSENGER

## DECEMBER 5, 2021

### NEWS AND NOTES

**Congregational Meeting**  
TBD

**Weekly Bible Studies**  
Tuesdays on Zoom

**Times of Service**  
**Sunday**

Bible study: 9:45 AM  
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible study: 7:30 PM  
(Immediately followed by a  
short worship service)

**First Friday of Month**  
**Singing**

September 3, 7:30

**Address and Contact**

University Heights Church of  
Christ  
445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,  
KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257  
www.uheightschurch.com

### GOD REQUIRES HOLINESS

*Matt Thompson wrote this article back in 2019. Besides being abundantly biblical and well written, it coincides with tonight's sermon from 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8. I encourage all to give Matt's article careful attention.*

The praises given to God in Revelation 4:8 clearly state that God is holy. "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" We find no difficulty in acknowledging and accepting the holiness of our God, yet there are times where we fail to understand the implications of His holiness for us as Christians.

As God, through Moses, was teaching the Israelites what He required in their worship, He explains an important principle that has implications for Christians today. In Leviticus 19:2 God tells Moses, "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.'" God explains that His holiness REQUIRES holiness from His people. He goes on in Leviticus 20:26 to say, "And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine."

God's people must understand that in order to worship God in the way that pleases Him, we must present ourselves in the holy way that He requires. Let us consider three ways that we, as Christians, must present ourselves Holy.

**Put God's commands before our wants.** To be holy means to be dedicated to God for His purpose. We must remember that God's purpose is more important than any of our personal desires. When we come to worship God our focus must be on Him. As hard as it is sometimes, the cares of this world must fade to the background and God must be front and center in our mind in order for us to be Holy in the way He requires.

**Our worship should come from a blameless heart.** Every one of us sins. Yet our approach to God should be with repentance in our heart asking him for forgiveness so that our worship of Him can be blameless. We cannot be Holy in the way that God requires when we have sin in our lives. Paul, referring to Jesus, writes in Col.

## Members Needing Our Prayers

Rick Small, Ralph Fox, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Joyce Bolton and family, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

## Others Needing Prayers

Allison Walker, Randy Cates, Larry McTeer, Charlene Michael, Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Dale Lyons, Adam Fusco, Rachel and Sarah White, Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Debbie Lanphear, Veronica Bowman

## To Our Guests

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1:22, *“He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him.”* Holy and blameless are inseparable characteristics.

**Be ready for God to use us as He sees fit.** 2 Timothy 2:21 states, *“Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.”* To be holy means to be ready for the work that God wants us to do; whatever and wherever that is.

Ultimately, our holiness is much more than a choice, it is a responsibility. We are responsible for being holy because our God is holy. Let us come before God in the way He says, not in the way we think is right.

Micah 6:6-8: *“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”* Matt Thompson

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Evangelist</b>
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

