

Grace Devotion

Week of January 26, 2025

Pastor Fred Young

1 Corinthians 12:12-18

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

There will always be differences in families of faith: a variety of opinions, experiences, priorities, needs and each should be recognized. Otherwise, the ear might get the message that it would be better off if it were an eye, or the foot might realize that the community values hands more highly. The message of Paul’s letter is one of Christian identity. Members of church communities across time have struggled with the question, *“How can I be who I am and stay connected to you?”*

Hand, foot, ear, eye...each, like us, have essential roles to fulfill in carrying on Christ’s work and love. Whether we are pastors, teachers, physicians, law enforcers, farmers, ballerinas or social workers! Our individual and corporate ministry need the others to do the work of Christ’s church. What would change in our lives and in our churches if we stood in the pews on Sunday morning and declared to God and to each other, *“God gives us no other day than today to bring*

good news to the poor, release to the captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed, and new beginnings to all who have been lost?"

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

I leave you with this poem from Ted Loder:

I Thank You for Those Things That Are Yet Possible

Thank you for work which engages me in an internal debate
between right and reward and stretches me toward responsibility
to those who pay for my work, and those who cannot pay
because they have no work;
For justice
which repairs the devastations of poverty;
For liberty
which extends to the captives of violence;
For healing
which binds up the broken hearted;
For bread broken
for all the hungry earth;
For good news
of love which is stronger than death;
And for peace
for all to sit under fig trees and not be afraid;
for my calling... my life!

PRAYER: God of many gifts, remind us that we need each other for our talents to be used to their fullest potential. Amen.



January 26, 2025

10AM

Epiphany 3: Good News, Good Ways

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Welcome/Announcements

Westminster Chimes

Prelude

**Song: “*Old Church Choir*”

#40

** Call to Worship

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

To restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

To study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

To build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of scripture:

To preach the good news of God’s love and liberation for all people.

** Hymn: “*Majesty*” #74
** Prayer

Holy one, We thank you for the gift of the Bible,
for its psalms and poems, myths and stories,
histories, teachings, and prophecies. May the Spirit
who called out those ancient writings continue to call
us out today, that our lives may reflect the first

sermon of Jesus, who brings good news to the poor
and lets the oppressed go free. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Praying for Others/Lord’s Prayer

Prayer of Confession

God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us and restore us to a new relationship with you. Amen

Assurance of Grace

Special Music

Scripture Readings:

1 Corinthians 12:12-31

Luke 4:14-21

Time for the Young at Heart

Sermon: “Fulfilled!”

**Hymn: “*Come, All Christians, Be Committed*” #455
**Affirmation of Faith

Reception of New Member: Anita Kincaid

Celebration of our Gifts

** Offertory Response: “Doxology” #625
** Prayer of Dedication

**Song: “*Your Grace is Enough*” #2
**Final Blessing

“*A Choral Benediction*” (circle around sanctuary)

Postlude

*On the screen ** Please stand, if you are able.

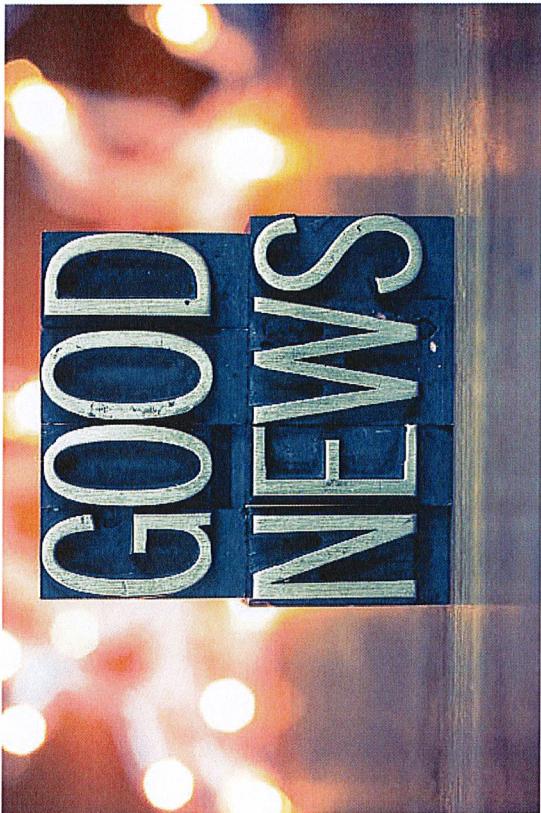
Upcoming Events

Trinity, Gettysburg Events:

Dinner Church – February 5th @5:30PM

California Fire Victims Collection

Grace will have the opportunity to assist California fire victims. We will be collecting monetary donations through the end of February. Look for the donation house inside the chancel rail during the month of February. Your donations will be sent to the UCC. Thank you for your consideration.



Financial Information

General pledge January 2025: \$3,271.00

General pledge January 2024 \$3,307.00

YTD income: \$9,289.64

YTD expenses: \$16,389.74

YTD deficit: \$7,454.11

Upcoming Meetings

- Transition Team – January 27th @ 5PM
- Music/Worship Committee – January 27th @ 6:30AM
- Consistory – February 10th @ 6PM

Thank you for today's worship leaders:

Fred Young - Pastor
Amy Fawks – Associate Pastor
Christian Keller – Organist
Fay Emlet, Joleen Fennell – Head Ushers

The Gospel According to
LUKE

- BEING
- THOSE
- THOU
- WRITTEN
- KINGDOMS
- WHOMSOEVER
- SHALL
- UNTO
- TEMPLE
- CHARGE
- THEIR
- SAID
- DEPARTED
- WENT
- TAUGHT
- INTO
- BOOK
- LIBERTY
- PREACH
- MINISTER
- THIS
- MOUTH
- COUNTRY
- PROPHET
- THROUGHOUT
- NONE
- ELISEUS
- WHEN
- MIGHT
- PASSING
- CAPERNAUM
- DOCTRINE
- VOICE
- COME
- DEVIL
- THEY
- FAME
- WITH
- STOOD
- HANDS
- KNEW
- SHOULD
- CITIES
- SYNAGOGUES



D G E C H A R G E C E Y Y R L W E Z S Z J X T D J N
C N H I K L K G H O D J E P T H E Y P F E Y L S T S
W W G M C C Y L T U U J T W A E C V W L A U Y Y P F
Z I X B W J W L H N Y B F H I N O J F P O F U N G D
X T N P I R B T J T J A X R C U M Q I H U P M A R S
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H B I G T H K T O Y G V M V S O G J N T O Z P O A S
A K M Y S O A U T K X E Z T J M C I L O B F N G S M
L U U N T M T U G E E B B H Q M E A Y N N E U U S L
L U Y E O S D H J N N J E O S B I T P K W E G E I W
W E B O O O A A E O N N C S S T R N T E O Z O S N R
I L T O D E H W I I I X L E H E Z G I G R Y Q D G Q
P N K V P V Q H B R R Q S G B K N E W S R N H L H U
U I C E J E N B T J D I I I D V D N G I T A A B U G
Y V Q O Y R I C P I Y M L P X D E H S C T E Y U E R
M P I I M Z O P V B K M E K O P V V T H I S R C M M
A E R R F D L D I D T I D W Q J I N C M M F I R S B
C J M O X X E S B M R M N Z V H L L D O X O T E A R
J A B K P T D C P V O F N G S I S P D O V V E R I H
U R C H R H G L R Z I U V V D I U K D Z U D L H D A
O N Z A C S E S R X W K T P F O Y Z F A M E I Z K N
B F P A Y C J T T I E O X H H O M K U C W Z S K D D
W E E F U Y J C I T I E S T W A O S K O Z K E E H S
D R C T T A U G H T V N O Q O I N T O P O X U J A T
P R R B V W Q H T H R O U G H O U T E X W Z S Y N E
A W E N T T N I D W P J O B B G S R T E M P L E K P

Epiphany



S	M	V	Y	J	F	K	K	A	C	Q	L	W	C	G
Z	C	H	R	I	S	T	J	T	W	R	Y	M	N	T
Y	I	U	U	Q	E	F	S	X	E	E	N	A	L	I
Y	N	S	D	G	M	X	M	N	U	P	A	E	H	S
G	C	Z	R	T	R	L	R	L	X	P	H	L	D	A
L	A	T	H	O	R	N	A	U	I	U	P	T	I	I
O	R	P	A	Q	P	E	H	P	E	S	I	R	V	A
R	N	F	Q	U	T	H	C	W	S	S	P	Y	I	H
I	A	E	W	V	Y	N	C	S	W	D	E	M	N	H
F	T	I	G	A	U	T	S	S	E	R	B	M	E	M
Y	E	O	C	C	U	S	F	E	R	O	A	C	S	A
J	E	S	U	S	F	R	L	R	B	L	R	Y	R	Y
E	M	B	R	A	C	E	L	P	E	R	U	C	U	W
M	I	R	V	Z	H	V	C	Y	H	H	E	C	R	N
T	M	E	S	S	I	A	H	C	K	N	N	Y	V	H

1. epiphany
2. hebrews
3. divine
4. incarnate
5. lordssupper
6. thorn
7. cypress
8. myrtle
9. isaiah
10. jesus
11. christ
12. messiah
13. embrace
14. charms
15. glorify