



January 23, 2022
Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ

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Pastor
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Epiphany Thought

If there's anything in life that we should be passionate about, it's the gospel. And I don't mean passionate only about sharing it with others. I mean passionate in thinking about it, dwelling on it, rejoicing in it, allowing it to color the way we look at the world.

C. J. Mahaney
The Cross Centered Life (2002)

Greenfield Charge United Church of Christ
Mt Hope 8:30am Greenfield 9:50am
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

January 23, 2022
Grace 11:00am

Community News

Prayer List and Prayers of the People

Prelude/Lighting of the Candles

* *Call to Worship*

This day is holy to the Lord your God.

Let us come ready to see, hear, and touch the Word of God.

Do not mourn or weep, and do not be grieved.

**How can we be sad when we can experience God's Word
and know God's love through our worship together?**

The joy of the Lord is our strength.

**Let us come together to worship the God of joy, strength,
and love.**

Invocation

O God, who gives us strength when we feel weak,
we gather to hear your Word,
sing your songs,
and give you praise.

We know that you are always with us, and we are grateful.

Help us to live our lives in ways that show you are near.

Thank you for your presence and constant care for us —
in worship, and in each day of our lives.

* *Opening Hymn*

"How Great Thou Art"

Mt Hope VH #505

Greenfield CH #147

Grace VH #505

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we recall the times when your Word feels distant, and when we forget how much you love us. We let our egos take hold, and we treat others as threats to our sense of self. We forget your words of comfort, love, and care. We forget to look to your Word for guidance. We forget that you are our ultimate source of joy. Forgive us, O God.

Assurance of Pardon

The Holy One's instruction is perfect, reviving one's very being.

God's laws are faithful, making naive people wise.

God's regulations are right, gladdening the heart.

God's commands are pure, giving light to the eyes.

Know that you are loved and forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a NIV

Unity and Diversity in the Body

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don't need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don't need you!” ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

* *The Reading of the Holy Gospel*

Luke 4:14-21 NIV

Gloria Tibi (Glory be to Thee, O Lord.)

TH #497

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. ¹⁵ He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

¹⁶ He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

* *Gloria Patri*

Children's Message

* *Meditation Hymn* “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Mt Hope VH #23

Greenfield CH #21

Grace VH #23

Today's Message

** The Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic/Christian church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

** The Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

** Sung Response*

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

TH # 501

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Statement

Offertory (MH)

* Doxology

TH # 551

* Offertory Prayer

O God of all gifts, we join with Jesus in proclaiming the year of your favor. Bless our gifts and bless us as we seek to bring joy and comfort to those who are unknown to us, and to those who are near and beloved. Amen.

* *Closing Hymn* “*Wonderful Grace of Jesus*”
 Mt Hope VH #188 *Greenfield* CH #338 *Grace* VH #188

* *Benediction*

Christ has no body but yours.

No hands, no feet on earth but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world.

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.

Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

In the name of the triune God: the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* *Three-Fold Amen*

TH # 558

* *Postlude/Extinguishing of the Candle*