

Granger United Methodist Church
Order of Worship: January 10, 2021
Baptism of the Lord
(CCLI #20349450)

Prelude

Greeting

Opening Conversation: Rev. Bruce

Scripture Focus: Matthew 5:17-48

Hymn: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), p. 548 (v. 1,2)

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.
In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

Prayer Concerns:

Walter & Dorothy Starcher	Sebastian Kunkler	Harold Simmons	Val Ewing
Josh Ewing	Jeff Parker	Millie Haddix	Bernie Arnold
George Rodgers	Robin Baker	Carolyn Cernik	Lenora Coddling
Anthony Casedonte	Andy deMeza	Took Manivong	

Our sympathy and prayers to family & friend of those listed below who have passed away:

Don Simmons
Anne Coleman

May God rest a healing hand upon those who have been named.

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Thoughts Along the Way:

Rev. Bruce Hartley

"Beginners Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven: Going Above and Beyond"

Prayer (unison)

Keep us vigilant, O God, against anything that seeks to destroy or diminish the fullness of life together for which you choose us. Keep us close to you and our neighbors, and never so far from strangers and even enemies that we fail to extend love to them. Amen.

God loved and so he gave. We love God and so we give—gifts can be given online or sent to the church office. Thank you for your support to the mission and ministry of Granger UMC.

Go Forth

Postlude

(Sermon Notes p. 2)

Sermon Notes- January 10, 2021

Thoughts Along the Way: “The Beginners Guide to The Kingdom of Heaven: Going Above and Beyond”

Matthew 5:17-48

Background:

One way to approach this portion of the Sermon on the Mount is to make use of the narrative pattern. Each topic is introduced with, "You have heard that it was said ..." (vv. 21, 27, 31, 33; n.b., v. 31 differs slightly), and then is immediately contrasted with Jesus' teaching, "But I say to you ..." (vv. 22, 28, 32, 34). Three of the four antitheses refer directly to one of the Ten Commandments ("You shall not murder," "You shall not commit adultery," and "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor" [Exodus 20:13, 14, 16; cf. Deuteronomy 5:17, 18, 20]). In each instance, Jesus expands the application of these ancient laws by identifying the source for these egregious transgressions (i.e., murder, adultery, indiscriminate divorce, false witness). *Thus, the title “Going Above and Beyond”*

Something to Ponder:

“Jesus says to get rid of our anger and insults and disagreements before they become big trouble for us.”

“Followers of Christ, have the ability to influence people about God's Kingdom through the way we handle the small things like our anger, insults and disagreements...”

Do you believe this statement?

If so, is there room for improvement as to the manner you handle anger, insults and disagreements?

Some are of the belief that, “we cannot properly worship God unless we are in a proper relationship with other people”

When have your troubled relationships with others troubled your relationship with God?

Read Matthew 5:43-48 then read Proverbs 24:17 “Do not rejoice when your enemies fall, and do not let your heart be glad when they stumble,”

Why does Jesus command his followers to love their enemies? What prevents us from following Jesus' command?

How are you praying for those you regard as enemies? Do you do more than pray for them, as Proverbs insists?

How specifically do we love ourselves in healthy faithful ways?

Is there room for improvement in the manner we love ourselves?

Notes for Kingdom Chat: (Tuesday @ 7:00 pm)