

Sunday
January 27, 2019
10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday
after the
Epiphany

Pastor Greg

Becoming disciples,
serving God's world.



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Plain print indicates worship leader.
Bold print indicates the people.
*Indicates please stand as able.

Look

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, Ministry Opportunities

Opening to the Creative Spirit

Choir: In the world of the driven

Let us be drawn in

Let your love be a given

Let us be drawn in

To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem

For the sake of the livin'

Let us be drawn in...

Leader: Hovering is the creative posture of taking a moment to see the "big picture." In a world of quick fixes and instant gratification, we sometimes want to skip the step of paying quiet attention to this question: "What one thing do we need to focus on now?" Clearing the decks in order to give ourselves space and time to think, to ruminate, to consider what is necessary, feels like a luxury but in fact both creativity experts and Jesus point to the importance of taking reflective time. The "project" of our lives and work in the world as Christians depends upon this as well. If you didn't feel that you have to do or fix EVERYTHING, what ONE thing would you work on at this point in your life? What do you feel drawn to?

Choir: In the world of the driven

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Leader: Let us pray together:

**Hovering God, You are as close as the air we walk through
and breathe. Open us to stop and feel Your presence this**

day so that we might learn what You would have us do in the midst of so much to do. Draw us into Your quiet patience. Give us the courage to wait. Amen.

***Opening Hymn of Praise: #405 Seek Ye First**

***Connecting**

What holds us back from connecting with the presence of our Creator? An artist named Pablo Picasso said, "Every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction." That means that whenever God leads us into new territory in our lives, "the way we've always done" life will change, something will be different. Sometimes what holds us back is our fear that if we don't just plow forward in the same old ways, we won't be able to handle the change.

Hear the Good News! We CAN handle change. Why? Because the Lord is always with us! As our greeting and passing of the peace today, I invite you to turn to your neighbor and greet them with this assurance, "You've got this!" We don't need to know what it is that each of us is struggling to change in our lives in order to create more goodness and freedom, we just need to remind each other that we are not alone and we are supporting one another! Would you greet one another now? "You've got this!"

Listen

Hymn: #2233 Where Children Belong

Make Belief Moment ~ Pastor Greg

We "make our belief" that God is playing and creating through people in all places, and God plays and creates with us too!

Children 3 yrs. to 3rd grade will be dismissed to POP! with Laurie Nic

The Word in Music: Be Still and Know ~ Chancel Choir

The Word Read Aloud: Luke 4:1-13

The Word Proclaimed: "Face the Moment" ~ Pastor Greg

Respond

Praying for the World

Choir: O God, fill our hearts to reach out in welcome, make us to see Your vision once more. Let's dream of a world where our hands are Your hands, we offer You ourselves, O God, make it so.

Make it so, make it so! We pray for the day, make it so. We dream of a world where love reigns among us and Your will is done, O God, make it so.

Leader: If you are comfortable doing so, close your eyes for just a moment so you can do some visualizing. Breathe in slowly. Let your breath out slowly. Again: in..... out..... Try to imagine that stresses, anxieties, deadlines, are rolling off your head, down your shoulders, down your arms, and falling away to the floor. See a blue sky above you. An incredible sunny, blue-sky day. When you think of "the sky's the limit," what do you imagine? What would you do if you could dream up anything for this town, this world, this community? Take a moment to write something on the piece of paper you were given when you came in. It can be a word, a phrase, or whole sentences expressing a desire, a dream, you would want to help create if you could. The ushers will collect these papers for the pastor to read as a prelude to our prayer.

Prayer Song: #334 Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Defibrillator Blessing

An AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) is a portable device that checks the heart rhythm and can send an electric shock to the heart to try to restore a normal rhythm. This is the result of fund-raising led by the Connections Sunday school class. VUMC people who are class certified are Lori Ensing, Steve Ensing, Tamra Young, Wil Emmert, Matt Luegge, & Greg Culver. Thanks to all who helped make it happen!

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Make it so, make it so! We pray for the day, make it so. We dream of a world where Love reigns among us and your will is done, O God, make it so.

Offering Back to God

This is part of our creative spirit in the world, this is our offering. May you see the things you do, no matter how small or mundane, as the way that you contribute goodness to the world, creating more life, more joy, more love."

Praise be to God, the Creator of all that is!

Offertory: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms ~ *Chancel Choir*

***Doxology:** #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Closing Song of Life:** #2123 Loving Spirit

*Benediction

May you see the unfolding of each day, as an opportunity to be a co-creator with God. As a Jesus-follower, may you feel his company leading you toward creating more kindness, justice and mercy. May you know the nudge of the creative Spirit within, "making belief" in all you are and do.

*Postlude

Prayer for Family and Friends

Updates and New Requests This Week

Pray for Don and Cathy Eichholz (Larry and Sally Kohler's friends). Cathy has breast cancer and is recovering from surgery.

The family of Jeff and Cathy Johnson are making critical care decisions for their mother.

Jonathan (Den and Marlene Sherman's grandson) had a reaction to a new medicine.

Paul Moberly (Susan Moberly-Hayes's father) is in Bronson Hospital with pneumonia.

Diana Pomeroy and family are mourning the loss of her uncle, Don Linders, who passed away last Sunday morning after battling cancer.

Arden Sult is recovering from knee replacement.

Previous Requests

Jack and Cynda Buckallew

Carol Eaton

Lauren Frantz

Sally Kohler is recovering from knee surgery.

Wayne Lash (Lori's 3-yr-old great-grandson) is at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital with Nephrotic Syndrome, a kidney disorder.

Tyler Lynch

Walker Polsinelli is in Kuwait.

Avery Schutter (Paul and Marilyn's infant great-granddaughter) is holding her own but is facing a lengthy recovery.

Karen Simpson is recovering at home following surgery.

Grant Swinehart is recovering at home following surgery.

Charlene Taylor has been very sick from a virus.

For Cheer and Hello

David Bretz
Barb Griner
Pat McClelland
Beverly Nimmo

Robert & Carmen Parsons
Marv & Kitty Starbuck
Mina Willett

VUMC's Mission Statement

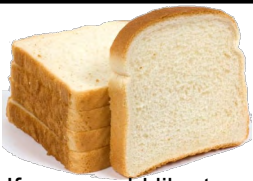


The General Rule of Discipleship

To witness to Jesus Christ in the world, and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Today's acolytes are
Mac Read and Vaughan Read

January 20 attendance:
Worship 88 Sunday School 30



Kalamazoo Gospel Mission needs bread

We are continuing to collect bread for The Kalamazoo Gospel Mission.

If you would like to contribute, please bring loaves of sliced white bread to the church, and they will be delivered to KGM.

24-Hour Prayer Vigil



We would like to have prayer for our church, our church family, and others for 24 hours a day, if possible. If you would like to sign up for an hour (as many as you would like),

please write your name in available spaces on the chart near the welcome center.

Mission Moment—Plus 10 Families

Jan. 27: Joe and Betty Gruber
Feb. 3:

Coming deadlines

- Newsletter items for February are due in the church office by tomorrow.
- ScripCents orders are due in the church office by 2:00 Friday, Feb. 1.

Meals for Karen and Tom Simpson

Karen is recovering from surgery, so meals for Karen and Tom will be organized. If you would like to help out, please call Vera Walker at 532-3551.

In Service to Our Country

Matthew Kohler
Ryan Miller
Walker Polsinelli

Tyler Smith
Geoff White

Weekly Donations

Needed each week

General Fund:
\$ 2,288.50
Building Fund:
\$ 1,140.66

Received Jan 6-12

General Fund:
\$ 8,997.75
Building Fund:
\$ 259.00

This Week's Calendar

Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for everyone
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, January 28

6:30 p.m. Family volleyball in the FLC
6:30 p.m. Scout Troop meeting
7:00 p.m. Church Council in the Taylor Room

Tuesday, January 29

2:00 p.m. Sew What Now God, Taylor Room
6:30 p.m. RAW (high school youth) in Room 107

Wednesday, January 30

10:30 a.m. Wednesday Winners in the Taylor Room
2:45 p.m. SHED (middle school outreach), Rm 107
5:00 p.m. HELIX (middle school youth), Room 107
6:00 p.m. Handbell Choir practice in the Sanctuary
6:30 p.m. Pickleball in the FLC
7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the Sanctuary

Thursday, January 31

10:00 a.m. Play Gym in the FLC
5:30 p.m. Preschool Board in the Library
6:00 p.m. Play Gym in the FLC
7:00 p.m. Apprentice class, Room 125 (Fish Room)

Friday, February 1 - Pastor's Day Off

no activities are scheduled

Saturday, February 2

9:00 a.m. Pickleball in the FLC
9:00 a.m. Susanna Wesley Circle making subs

Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. and 9:15 a.m. Heart & Hands Preschool

Next Week

Sunday, February 3

after Worship Pick up sub orders

Monday, February 4

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee in the Library
7:00 p.m. Worship Committee in the Library
8:00 p.m. SPRC in the Library

Tuesday, February 5

7:00 p.m. Trustees in the Library

Thursday, February 7

11:00 a.m. UMW Executive Committee, Library
12:30 p.m. UMW General meeting, Taylor Room

This Week's Celebrations

Birthdays

1/27 Justin Carrier	1/30 Jim Smola
Dessie Harris	1/31 Steve Ensing
1/28 Andrea Read	Mike Hardy
Janet Zang	Dee Morton
1/29 Charlene Dailey	2/1 Julie Griffin
Katie Geiger	Marianna Hiemstra
Lynn Griner	2/2 Chuck Myers
Dawnara Rollins	
1/30 David Nic	<u>Anniversaries</u>
	1/29 Gene & Janet Zang



Children ages 3 yrs. to third grade leave the worship service right after the kids' message and return to the service after the offering.

Please be sure your child has a name tag with age or grade and your cell phone number.

Order subs for your Super Bowl party

Susanna Wesley Circle has begun their annual sub sale. Place your orders today. The 6" sub bun with deli style sliced turkey, ham, salami and sliced Co-Jack cheese costs \$6 (pay when you order). Buy 12 and get 1 FREE! You may pick up your sandwiches on Saturday, Feb. 2 at noon in the Taylor Room kitchen or Sunday, Feb. 3 after church.



Do you have ideas? Let us know.

Fill out the information below and place in the offering plate or in Polly's box in the work room.

One thing that I think we should be doing that we don't—something that would really help our church grow and reach those that need it, is

One thing we have always done as a Church that I really don't understand and think should be discontinued is
