

Message Notes

Ephesians 1:15-23:

Having Christ as our Lord means,

1. We have hope
“With the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you.” Ephesians 1:18
2. We are not alone, because we have inherited a faith from the saints
“You may know... what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints.” Ephesians 1:18
3. We have the power of God to do good and love others
“The immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his power.” Ephesians 1:19
“And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’” Matthew 25:40

Prayer for the Week:

Holy God, we come to you at this crowning of the year. As we prepare for the turning of the seasons; may we be reminded that we are working for your reign on earth as it is in heaven. We are preparing to see the fullness of your glory through Your Son, Jesus Christ. That fullness is made aware in us by your love for us. That fullness is made aware in us by the sending of Your Son to us. That fullness is made aware in us by the calling to love one another. We have not yet seen the fulfillment of your reign on earth, but we believe and trust that it is coming, and that we are called to take part. As we prepare to enter a new year in the church, as we prepare for this season of light and hope, may we live into our call to love one another. In the name of Christ, the fullness of God’s love made known to us, we pray. Amen.

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The Kingdom is Near:

1. How is Christ the Lord of my life?
2. What can I do for the “least of these,” those who are part of Christ’s family?
3. What brings me hope?