JANUARY 24, 2016 EPIPHANY 3



We are many parts but all one body.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 4:14-21	Jesus returns to Nazareth
Monday	1 Cor. 12:12-31	One body, many parts
Tuesday	Luke 4:31-44	Jesus drives out an evil spirit
Wednesday	Luke 6:6-11	Jesus heals in the synagogue
Thursday	Acts 14:1-7	Paul and Barnabas in the synagogue
Friday	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	The Power of God's Word
Saturday	Psalm 119:105-112	God's Word gives light
Sunday	Luke 4:21-30	The prophet Jesus is rejected

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

God put our bodies together in such a way that even the parts that seem the least important are valuable. He did this to make all parts of the body work together smoothly, with each part caring about the others. **1 Corinthians 12:24b-25 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, thank you for making us part of your body. Help us to come together to do your work. Amen. (1 Corinthians 12:25-26)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, we come together as members of your body. Feed us today in order for us to work together, so that in us, others may see you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Spirit bless and strengthen you as part of the body of Christ. Amen. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What would your life be like without a tongue, or fingers, or feet?
- The apostle Paul describes the church as a body that is made up of many parts (1 Cor. 12:12-31). What body part do you think best describes the part you play in the church?
- Paul says that the different parts of the body of Christ should have "equal concern" for each other. What does this mean?

DEVOTIONS

Go for a prayer walk this week! Pray aloud (one at a time!) as you walk, and allow what you see (people, nature, places, and signs) to direct you in prayer. For example, if you pass a school, pray for its teachers and students. Don't forget to say a prayer of thanks for your bodies and for your part in the body of Christ.

SERVICE

Paul says that as the body of Christ, the church, we are to care for one another and treat each other as equally important (1 Cor. 12:25-26). When one part of the body suffers, the whole body is called to share in that suffering. Who is suffering in your faith community at present? Plan a way to care for them.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

When Jesus attended the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth, he read to them from the book of Isaiah.

Volunteer as a household to lead the Bible readings on Sunday at worship. Practice together at home. Also consider volunteering for other worship duties in your congregation, such as cleaning, serving coffee, ushering, and taking the offering.

