

Acts 2:42-47

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe[a] came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Notes

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

1. Where in life have you noticed the dynamic described in the sermon: where you can position something to thrive but not actually control whether or not it thrives?
2. What stands out to you about the four habits the early Christians were devoted to? What stands out to you about the picture of a thriving church that Luke describes?
3. How would you evaluate how "devoted" or strong you are toward each of the four habits ("the Apostles' teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers")?

Family Business

Upcoming:

Sunday 10/27

- 8:45 am – Service / Sanctuary
- 9:30 am – Children's Choir Practice / Choir Room
- 9:45 am – Sunday Morning Classes
- 11:00 am – Service / Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm – Service / Sanctuary
- 7:30 pm – Dessert & Sermon Discussion / The Gathering Place

Tuesday 10/29

- 6:30 pm – Men's Bible Study / Room 015

Wednesday 10/30

- 6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball / Gym
- 6:00 pm – Abide Women's Bible Study / Room 020
- 6:15 pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal / Bell Choir Room
- 7:15 pm – Chancel Choir / Choir Room

Thursday 10/31

- 8:30 am – Binnie Clements Baking Days / Fellowship Hall, Kitchen
- 11:00 am – Prayer Meeting / Prayer Room

Friday 11/1

- 12:00 pm – Women's Table Talk / Room 114

Men's Chorus: This fall, everyone at F&C has the opportunity to sing in a short-term choir! This is perfect for anyone who loves music but can't commit to singing every week. In just 2 short weeks you can get the full experience of making beautiful music, making new friends, and using your gifts to worship God! **The Men's Chorus will sing in the 11:00 service on November 17th. Rehearsals will be on November 6th and 13th from 7:00-7:30 pm in the Choir Room.**

Operation Christmas Child: Sunday, November 3rd will mark the beginning of the annual Christmas Child Shoebox Drive. Visit the information table in the South Atrium to pick up preprinted shoeboxes, directions for filling them, and shipping labels. **Be sure to return the filled boxes by Friday, November 22nd.**

We are joining Covenant Presbyterian Church for the annual **Women's Gathering** at their church on **November 9th** to experience worship, teaching, conversation, and lunch! This year's speaker is our very own Pastor Jamie Swope! **It's \$30 and sign-up ends on 10/30/2024.** Need a babysitter? We've got you covered—details are all on the form on the events page!

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820 East Cherry Street | Springfield, Missouri 65806



O, Theophilus!

a sermon series in Acts

October 27, 2024

FIRST &
CALVARY

The House of Prayer

Prelude | Dr. Jim Davidson

*Call to Worship | Tyler Heckman Jocelyn Squires

Leader: We are God's church:

All: We come together to worship.

He has given us his Word:

We come together to learn from him.

He has filled us with his power:

We go out to bring others to him.

He has called us into his family:

We come together to share our lives.

He has put his words on our lips:

We go out to tell the world about him.

He has given us his Spirit:

We come together to celebrate.

He has showered us with his riches:

We go out to share his goodness with others.

He has freed us from our past:

We come together to move forward.

He has planned for us a glorious future:

We go out to live our lives to please him.

We are God's church:

We come together to worship.

*Opening Hymn

2 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Words: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1861

Confession of Sin

Free us, Lord, from our obsession with ourselves long enough to care for others; to be so concerned about the well-being of the human community that we don't have to worry about our place, our church, our class, our values, our vested interests. Help us to know the joy and freedom of putting all Our trust in you. Amen.

Hymn 817

Hear Our Prayer, Oh Lord

Words: Based on Psalm 143:1

Music: George Whelpton

Declaration of Forgiveness

Come now, let us argue it out,

says the LORD:

though your sins are like scarlet,

they shall be like snow;

though they are red like crimson,

they shall become like wool.

—Isaiah 1:18, NRSV

Christian, be at peace and know you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn 805

Glory be to the Father

Words: Gloria Patri

Music: Henry Greatorex

Time for Children | Chip Sheppard

Jesus Loves Me

Oh How I Love Jesus

Scripture | Acts 2:42-47

See Scripture Panel

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem | Women's Chorus

Bless the Lord Oh My Soul

Words and Music: Kevin Jensen

Sermon | Rev. Don Everts

A Devoted Church

Confession of Faith | The Apostles' Creed

Hymn No. 14

Prayers of the People and 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.

Invitation to Offering

Feel free to use the offering plates or contact the church for online or direct deposit giving. Guests, please do not feel obligated.

Offertory | Women's Chorus; Jef White, trumpet

Alleluia, Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Words and Music: Terre McPheeters

*Doxology

Hymn 809

Words: Thomas Ken

Music: Genevan Psalter

*Offering Prayer

*Closing Hymn

563 Lord, I Want to be a Christian

Words and Music: Afro-American Spiritual

*Benediction

*Postlude