

## NEXT STEP: STUDY &amp; SHARE

## READINGS

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

*We feast upon the abundance of your house, O Lord. (v8)*

1 Corinthians 12:1-12

John 2:1-11

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory & led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness & salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

## SERMON TEXT- 1 Corinthians 12:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers & sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed & led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup>Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" & no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, & to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one & the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. <sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one & has many members, & all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

## LISTENING TO . . .

**GOD-** *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. & 2. Review *1:10-31, 3:1-21, 5:1-13, 6:1-20, 8:1-13, 11:17-34* to understand the disagreements within the congregation. Use your Bible's study notes, too. Make a list of the issues. How do these concerns still bother congregations today? How have they troubled your own?

**EACH OTHER-** *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. It's easy to misunderstand *1 Corinthians ch12* as prescriptive for our day instead of descriptive of St. Paul's day. Use your Bible's study notes to understand each spiritual gift. Carefully consider *vv4-6, 11, 29-31*. Is any listed gift necessary for all believers of all times & places? See also [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual\\_gift](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spiritual_gift) for a quick & easy overview.
4. Read *vv14-16*; in what sense is one meaningfully a Christian when they are (nearly-) permanently absent from the body, effectively cutoff from life in a congregation & in the communion of saints? How do they receive the Word preached *for them* & the sacraments' grace for them? See *Small & Large Catechisms: 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment* available [bookofconcord.org](http://bookofconcord.org)

**NEIGHBORS-** *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> C., Christians viewed "speaking in tongues" as referring to human languages. How does this remind us of the need make sure our hearers understand our "Christian-ese," "churchiness," & insider jargon/lingo? When have you been surprised by *pre-Christian's* misunderstanding of some faith vocabulary you took for granted? See *Acts 2:1-24*
6. St. Paul notes that Christians are committed to the "common good" (*1 Corinthians 12:7*). How do we see that in a simple way in the Gospel lesson? How do the ways that Jesus makes your life better either enable you to better others? What good stuff can you connect with which specific people in your everyday life?

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Second Sunday after the Epiphany

01.19.25

Series: DF<sup>2</sup>

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

*Our life together **Developing Fully Devoted Followers of Jesus***

Many & One

*To melt our souls together, & out of many to make but one. -St Augustine*

-Notes-

**KEY VERSE:** For just as the body is one & has many members,  
and all the members of the body, though many, are one body,  
so it is with Christ. (v12)

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**-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-**

**Jesus revealed his glory, & his disciples believed in him. (John 2:11)**

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