

“The God of Grace and Compassion”
Luke 9:1-9; Mark 6:7-13; Matthew 10:1-15

“When He saw the crowds, **He had compassion for them**, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd” (Matthew 9:36). “When He went ashore He saw a great crowd, and **He had compassion on them** and healed their sick” (Matthew 14:14). “Then Jesus called His disciples to Him and said, **‘I have compassion** on the crowd because they have been with Me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way’” (Matthew 15:32). “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for **I am gentle and lowly in heart**, and you will find **rest for your souls**. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

- **“He called** the twelve together....”
 - After spending all night in prayer **Jesus chose** these 12 from among the disciples and called them Apostles (Luke 6:12-16; Acts 1:20-26).
 - Jesus sent them out **two by two**; this included Judas (Mark 6:7).
- **“He gave** them **power and authority**....”
 - He gave them authority to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons (Matthew 10:8).
 - The Scriptures teach us that **God reigns** and has absolute control over all things (Luke 8:22-56). God ruling over all things is meant to give us **stability, strength, courage, and boldness**, as we go through life.
 - *“We as Christians should hate all suffering, especially eternal suffering.” (John Piper)*
 - It has always been “normal” for physicians, exorcists, and those with special spiritual powers to charge for their services; Jesus told His disciples to reject that practice (Matthew 10:8) and to give freely as they have been given.
- **“He sent** them out **to proclaim** the kingdom of God and **to heal**.”
 - “Jesus **instructed** them....”: An order that required unhesitating and unqualified obedience. (Matthew 10:5)
 - The **Kingdom of God** is understood in at least three ways:
 - The **spiritual rule** of God in our lives through repentance (Mark 6:12).
 - The **sovereign rule** of God over all things (Matthew 10:7-8).
 - The **physical rule** of Christ during His Millennial Reign.
 - *“But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel”*: Christ was the Messiah Israel had been looking for. He proved to them He was the Messiah, few accepted, and as a Nation they rejected Him (Matthew 23:37-39).
- **“He said** to them, **‘Take nothing** for your journey....’”
 - Jesus was teaching them and preparing them to trust His sufficiency and His faithfulness to meet their needs, “for the laborer deserves his food” (Matthew 10:10; Luke 22:35; 1 Timothy 5:17-19; Philippians 4:11-13,19).
 - “Shake off the dust from your feet”: It was a sign of condemnation to those you are departing from, a shaking off of the contamination of being in that place.
 - “It will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.” (Matthew 10:15; cf. Luke 12:47-48)

Worship: How Great Thou Art — Various Artists

Christ the Solid Rock — Norton Hall Band

In Tenderness — The Sing Team

Closing Song: Grace and Peace — Sovereign Grace Music

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 9:45a/Church 10:30a; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30p/Men 7p; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20p/Church 7p

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of September we are collecting monetary donations for the Christian Union Co-op. This is the general fund out of which the denomination aids individual churches within the denomination, as well as paying for repairs and upkeep of the State Home Office. The money we are collecting will go directly towards repairs that need to be done to the grounds and to the kitchen. There is a container on the back table for your monetary donations. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for Christian Union. **NEXT Sunday is the LAST day for this collection!**

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship TODAY immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We have two different ministries that are in need of some volunteers:

- The Maintenance Ministry** is looking for two to three people to join the ministry to help with the set-up and teardown for services and fellowship meals. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please see Hunter Ardrey.
- The Children's Ministry** is also looking for some volunteers. If you are interested in serving in this ministry or have any questions about serving in this ministry, please see Kalen or Courtney Dees.