

Rediscovering our United Methodist

Roots

Series Overview

Roots give us the stability and nourishment we need to grow and break new ground. As we seek to grow in our faith as individuals and as the church, looking back at the deep roots of the Methodist movement can help us look forward to our future. More than mere traditions or rituals, our Methodist roots are evidence of God's Spirit moving through our history, the same Spirit who is breathing life into us today.

WEEK 1: BAPTISM | MARK 1:4-12

Baptism is God's cleansing of our original sin, initiation into Christ's Holy Church, incorporation into the body of Christ, *and* empowerment by the Holy Spirit for a lifelong process of discipleship in community.

WEEK 2: GRACE | EPHESIANS 2:4-10

Grace is a gift from God given freely to all people, and because of this gift we are saved. This grace is the spark that makes the Methodist fire burn, the starting point and an essential root of our theology.

WEEK 3: PERSONAL AND SOCIAL HOLINESS: MISSIONAL CONNECTION | MICAH 6:6-8

John Wesley, said "There is no holiness but social holiness." Salvation and a full life in Christ are seen in personal and social holiness. This holiness calls us to a missional connection with our communities and the world.

WEEK 4: HOLY CONFERENCING | COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

In the United Methodist Church, holy conferencing focuses on the ability of laity and clergy to come together and discuss and discern difficult topics guided by the Holy Spirit, which can be a witness to the world. The local church can also engage in holy conferencing through its ministry and decision-making.

WEEK 5: COMMUNION | 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

In the United Methodist Church, communion is a means of grace and a holy mystery where Christ is spiritually present and the invitation is open to all.