

Sunday, February 9, 2025 5th Sunday after Epiphany
(Presbyterian Media Sunday, Camp and Retreat Sunday)
Luke 5:1-11 "Put Out Into Deep Water"

We've each done the best we could with our lives. The congregation has done the best we could at each stage of our life together. Jesus is asking us to go out and let our nets down where we have already done our best and had no effect. "We've tried that before." "Been there, done that."

Fishing was how Peter and the others made a living and they wouldn't go in the heat of the day. But a life-giving force entered the world through the presence of Christ.

Full catch of fish linked to prophecy of brackish water becoming fresh and supporting swarms of living creatures wherever the river of life flows, Ezekiel 47:7-12. Two boats needed to gather the nets around the catch.

*Fishing as hunting, killing, and eating. Gathering together into the kingdom.

*Leadership of Simon, or Simon representing all disciples. Responding with humble awe.

*Specifically, what does Christ preach?

*Overwhelming catch story also John 21:1-14, Jesus scales, cleans, cooks. Video clip.

As individuals, receiving the life-giving water of the Spirit. Consciousness of own sin.

As a congregation, receiving the life-giving water of the Spirit, we are an intentional community following Jesus. From the church documents, new members covenant.

Our Vision: We want to know Christ and make Him known!

Our Mission: We seek the Kingdom of God as we embrace all people and share the experience of God's steadfast love in Jesus Christ.

Expanding our Core Values

Worship: trust in God's faithfulness

Discipleship: Spiritual Growth/Formation

Fellowship: Family

Ministry: Serving

Mission: Sharing our faith in words and deeds

multi-generational community

multi-cultural community

denominational life

Excitement of the congregation seen in: in giving, in renewal when the congregation opened our doors to unhoused people; hunger for spiritual life and formation, care for each other, gathering for worship. Now, again, we have to leave something behind.

What deep waters are we being called into? A continuation and yet a new venture.