

## Bible Study: St. John's – West Bend

September 22/23, 2021



*...in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the Church.* (Colossians 1:17b-18a)

### Opening Prayer

#### Sermon Series - "We Resolve"

- Resolve to do what? "Re-up" to our Mission Statement as "WE" Re-**Connecting**, Re-**Caring** and Re-**Sharing in Christ**
- Who is the "We" and who is the Head of the We?
- Why is this important to you and your **Household of Faith**?
- What do **"Spiritual Conversations"** have to do with Jesus?
- Who is Jesus? What is He doing through His Church?

#### Read: Colossians 1:15-23

- What jumps out at you when you hear or read this text?
- Who is Jesus and what is He doing?
- What might Paul mean in verses 20 and 23? How does this tie in with discipleship, St. John's and "continuing in the faith..."?

#### Read Matthew 13:1-23 (*The Parable of the Sower and the Seed*)

- Purpose of Christ's parables? See 13:10-17 (seeing & hearing)
- The Sower? The Seed? The Soil? The Weeds? The Birds, etc.
- Verse 18... who/what is **"The Word of the Kingdom"**? Look again at Colossians text... (see also John 1:1-14).
- What/Who do you see and hear? God's Word read and proclaimed... the sacraments... **Jesus holding things together!**
- How does God's Kingdom come for you? How is Jesus holding things together for you (in the seen and unseen parts of life)?

### So... What do you see and hear? (Discipleship Stories)

### Closing Prayer

*He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the Gospel...*

(Colossians 1:17-23a)