09 May 2021 Finding Joy in God’s Community

Hebrews 12:22-24; 1 Peter 4:7-11

Discuss some of the ideas and people that humanity has unified around- good and bad (e.g. democracy, Joseph Stalin, etc). Why is Jesus a different kind of unifier than any other (Romans 5:7-9)?

What joy have you found in fellowship with this congregation?

Cultural things held in common are good (Colossians 4:11), but describe the joy that comes from something beyond being fellow Americans, fellow churchgoers, fellow middle-class voters, etc. (Colossians 4:2-6).

Why is person-to-person, human-to-human contact so important in the Body of Christ (Romans 15:5; Galatians 6:2)?

How is the biblical notion of having compassion and heart-felt empathy with one another different than the current concept of being ‘nice’ (Ephesians 4:32; 1 Thessalonians 3:12)?

What does it mean in scripture to “love each other deeply” and that “Love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Peter 4:8)? What affects occur as more people practice this?