

A Sabbath Way of Life

January 3, 2021



ARE YOU NEW TO KNOX? WELCOME!



Prayer

If you would like someone to pray with you, pastors will be available at the front of the Worship Center after the service.



Communion

We celebrate Communion weekly. If you are a baptized follower of Christ, we invite you to join us.



Questions?

If you'd like to talk with someone about questions you have, please contact the Knox Office. Information is also available through the Knox app or website.



Connecting at Knox

Community Groups are one of the ways we seek to help folks get and stay connected at Knox. These small groups are a way to engage in Gospel-centered community as we study God's Word, worship, pray, serve, and seek to live out a God-honoring, neighbor-loving life together. Visit the Knox website (Ministries -> Adult) to find out more about Community Groups and to complete a request form to join one.

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Bryan Gregory (sermon & Communion) • Pastor Mike Frison (liturgy)

- FOR REFLECTION -

Because we understand our worth as image-bearers and our identity as children of God, we will not look to the Internet to prove that we are important, valuable, and loved. And because we accept the presence of indwelling sin, we will not be blind to the potential idolatries and temptations we can succumb to online. And because we know ourselves to be fallen creatures, we will accept the limits of our human condition. We cannot have meaningful relationships with thousands of people. We cannot really know what is going on in the world. We cannot be truly here and there at the same time. The biggest deception of our digital age may be the lie that says we can be omni-competent, omni-informed, and omni-present. We cannot be any of these things. We must choose our absence, our inability, and our ignorance – and choose wisely. The sooner we embrace this finitude, the sooner we can be free.

- Kevin DeYoung



∞ ORDER OF WORSHIP ∞

– GOD GATHERS –

Prelude *(You are invited to pray and reflect silently.)*

Welcome

Call to Worship *Psalm 108*

***Hymn of Praise** *All People of Our Newborn King*

***Prayer of Praise**

***Songs of Praise** *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery
Build My Life*

– GOD RENEWS –

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Grace *Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18*

Story of Grace

Pastoral Prayer

Song of Preparation *Come to Me*

– GOD FEEDS –

Scripture Reading *John 15:1-6*

Sermon *Living the Sabbath: Resisting Technological Tyranny*

Approaching the Table *All for Jesus!*

The Lord's Supper

***Hymn** *This Is My Father's World*

– GOD SENDS –

***Benediction**

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

RESISTING TECHNOLOGICAL TYRANNY

John 15:1-6

Next Week: Jeremiah 17:19-27

- GOING DEEPER -

Today's sermon focuses on Sabbath as a way of resisting the tyranny of technology in our lives. Technology is both bane and blessing. We focus on its blessings but are often blind to some of its effects on us.

- ▶ Centuries ago, Blaise Pascal described our tendency to let any number of distractions divert our attention from the fact that we are heading over a cliff. How have the pervasive technologies of our ordinary lives helped blind us to that fact?
- ▶ Technology always promises, in some form or fashion, to be life-giving. In many instances it is provisionally life-giving. But even a COVID-19 vaccine, for example, only delays rather than delivers us from death. Can you describe some way you have bought into the false promise of technology as a life-giving power?
- ▶ Jesus says that life, real life, always involves pruning. Where and how might you abide in Christ and bow to his work of pruning that frees us from technological tyranny?
- ▶ How might the practice of Sabbath be one of the means of grace that God has given you to unlock the prison door of technological tyranny?





Family Matters

- ▶ A letter from Session concerning Communion during the pandemic was emailed to the congregation last week. If you did not receive it, you may contact the church office to request a copy.
- ▶ We will offer “The Heart and Soul of a Real Marriage / Relationship” starting in January. Details and registration are available on our website. You may also use the Knox app to register for the class. Deadline to register: January 6.
- ▶ Reminder from our Building & Grounds Committee: Areas of lower and upper parking lots, as well as some sidewalks, have been roped-off to prevent people from parking or walking in these areas. In order to reduce snow and ice removal expenses, Knox will not provide winter care for these restricted areas. For your safety, please do not attempt to park or walk in these areas.
- ▶ There are many opportunities for community at Knox. You can join a men's or women's Bible study, a multi-generational community group, or a group with a special focus. Explore these options by going to the Knox website (Ministries > Adult).



Community / Ways to Connect

- ▶ Family Life Services (FLS) in Ypsilanti will receive this year's special Christmas offering. Visit their website (<https://flsfriends.org/>) to learn more about this organization that seeks to empower women through Christian community to build strong families and celebrate all life. You can still give to the Christmas offering online or use special offering envelopes available at the Welcome Center in the atrium.
- ▶ Are you looking for ways to serve on our community? Check out "How Can I Help?" on the Knox website for opportunities to give financially, donate goods and supplies, and serve through hands-on participation.



Listen to our Spotify playlist

Open Spotify app & scan this playlist code:





In Essentials, Unity. In Non-essentials, Liberty.
In All Things, Charity.



*Download our app to give online, listen to previous sermons
and access other helpful information about our church.*

Scan with your camera or a QR reader to download the Knox app.

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