



The Power of Embracing Spiritual Paradox

Philippians 3:4b–14

Have you ever felt you had to get everything right before you could be okay—or that you had to find your own way back to solid ground?

Paul offers a different starting place: **Christ has already taken hold of us.** In Philippians 3:12, *καταλάβω* (*katalabō*) means “that I may take hold,” and *κατελήμφθην* (*katelēmphthēn*) means “I was taken hold of.”

That's the heart of today's sermon title: **“καταλάβω of Christ (a.k.a. κατελήμφθην BY Christ)... TOGETHER.”** We press on toward Christ because Christ has first reached for us. We don't strive to earn God's care; we journey from the solid ground of being held by Christ.

We may not have arrived, but we are not abandoned. We grow, stumble, and keep going—together—held by grace.

The Service of Worship

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2026

Liturgical Color: White
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Rev. Tom Carruth

Please register your attendance on the pads found in each pew.

Prelude

A Grand Celebration
The Sanctuary Bells

Derek K. Hakes

*Hymn

363 *And Can It Be that I Should Gain*

Pastoral Prayer

*Hymn

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When We Are Living

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

In Remembrance
The Sanctuary Bells

Buryl Red

Eunice Andrews, Natalie Bradley, Carla Hillis, Denise Housel,
Allen Mason, Jill Massee, Amy Muse, Bob Studley,
Anita Williams, Caron Williams

*Doxology

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LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Scripture

Philippians 3:4b-14

Sermon

καταλάβω of Christ
(a.k.a. κατελήμφθην BY Christ)... TOGETHER

Rev. Carruth

*Hymn

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Spirit Song

Holy Communion

(gluten free crackers are available upon request)

Music During Communion

Communion Meditation arr. Douglas E. Wagner
The Sanctuary Bells

Come, Risen Lord Alfred Morton Smith
O Gladsome Light Louis Bourgeois
David M. Kenney, Jr., organ

Sending Forth with Blessing

Postlude *Bell Jubilee* Ellen Jane Lorenz
The Sanctuary Bells

*Stand as able

Acolyte-Anna Reese Mason 11:00 Crucifer - Lily Peck 11:00

*thank
you!*

Thank you to the following men who helped set up the choir loft so the Sanctuary Bells could play in worship today. Ed Chapman, Mike Klug, Michael O'Neill, Buddy Roper, Guy Storm, Bob Studley.

- The baby boy rosebud is given in celebration of the birth of Theodore "Teddy" Johns Ray, born September 28 to proud parents Rob and Anna Ray. Big brother Robbie is especially excited to welcome Teddy to the family! Congratulations to the Ray family on this precious new blessing!
 - A preschool nursery is provided for children ages six weeks through four years. Children's Church is offered during the 11:00 a.m. service for children age four through those who have completed first grade. An usher will be happy to help you locate these ministries in the Education Building.
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Rev. Tom Carruth, Senior Pastor
Rev. Rob Ray, Associate Pastor

Perry Methodist Church
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Weekly Schedule

Monday, October 5

10 a.m. - Diving Deeper Bible Study in the Brad Brady Conference Room
5 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study in the Brad Brady Conference Room

Tuesday, October 6

7 a.m. - Men's Prayer Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall
9 a.m. - Caring Cards
11 a.m. - JOY Choir Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 7

7 a.m. - Youth Prayer Breakfast
4 p.m. - Tree House Trades in the Fellowship Hall
5:30 p.m. - Youth Band Rehearsal
6 p.m. - Youth \$5 Pizza
6:30 p.m. - Youth Worship and Small Groups
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 8

1 p.m. - Walking in the FLC

Saturday, October 10

9 a.m. - Meet at the Youth Center for Beach Retreat (prior registration is required)

SoupFest Fundraiser for Honduras Sunday, October 18

12 p.m. in the Family Life Center

Bring change to vote for your favorite soup!
Raffle winners will also be drawn!

Want to provide a crockpot of soup or platter of sandwiches?

Contact Katie at katie.pumc@gmail.com.

For more info, go to perrymethodist.com/our-ministries/missions

Methodist Women

**Monday, October 12
12 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Bring a sandwich or salad. Drinks, sides, and dessert will be provided. Our program will be from Melanie Duncan.

For more info, please go to
[perrymethodist.com/
our-ministries/women](http://perrymethodist.com/our-ministries/women)

Trunk or Treat

**Sunday, October 25
5:30 - 7 p.m. at the Walker Barn
\$10 per person (over 2 years)**

For more info and to register go to [perrymethodist.com/
our-ministries/children](http://perrymethodist.com/our-ministries/children)

**Registrations must be received by
Monday, October 19.**

PVO Sugar Drive

We are collecting 4 lb bags of sugar for the PVO Christmas Food Boxes. We have a goal of 260 bags. To help meet our goal, we have a competition between the 9 a.m. service and the 11 a.m. Service. What service will win? Let's find out together!

For more info, go to
[perrymethodist.com/
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Honduras Mission Trip Raffle!

Stop by the table outside to purchase tickets or come by the church office during the week. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 (cash or check) Scan the QR code to view our items.

