

WORSHIP for Flag Day – June 14, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) If you need a COVID-19 cloth mask call 740-901-1232 for the Johnsons, who lead the CRT. Thank you to Gage Marcum and Katie Slaymaker, who have been making masks available.
- 2) Please invite family or friends, who want to join us for live worship on Sundays @10:45am, to request access by emailing their name, email, & phone number to the church office.
- 3) Please have your Bible at hand for Worship each week!
- 4) To watch sermons recorded on Zoom on our YouTube Channel, go to the FPCP website: <https://www.fpcpataskala.com/> and click on WORSHIP or follow us on our Facebook from the homepage.
- 5) Youth group for those entering 5th thru 12th grade at 3pm on 2nd & 4th Sundays: 6/28 & 7/12.
- 6) Scout Sunday is scheduled for June 28th during @10:45am Zoom, where those scouts who achieved their religious awards this year will be recognized. Congratulations Scouts!
- 7) Have communion elements of bread and juice of the fruit of the grape vine at table in your home for 10:45am Zoom worship on Sundays July 5th. Pastor Janet will lead us through home communion. If you need elements provided to you, call the Johnsons, who lead the Christian Response Team, at 740-901-1232.
- 8) The regular FPCP session meeting is 6:30pm (2nd) Thursday, July 9th, on Zoom.

Prelude played by Laura Keesor, “Lift High the Cross”

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5QK3O3ptlk&list=PLAdy2hvW6PL8_1itXDbTRrCel331DmVVU&index=2&t=0s

Call to Worship: Isaiah 42:9-10 *Unison*

I am the Lord: that is my name! I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols.

“See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.” Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.

Opening Hymn: “I Surrender All”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x2lpLSfq8>

Prayer of Confession: Isaiah 42 *Unison*

We were created to bring you praise and glory, to proclaim with joy who you are and what great things you do, O God. Yet we are quiet and silent. We put more enthusiasm in our cheering for and serving things other than you. We have not kept your law nor your ways. Forgive our great sin. We would be lost without you, Lord Jesus. Amen

(Pause for a time of silent confession.)

Assurance of Forgiveness: Isaiah 42:6-7 *Responsively*

Isaiah prophesied of Christ, “I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your

hand. I will keep and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.” We believe the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

“The Gloria Patri”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dgcYD_m4OhU

Hymn of Preparation: “The Star Spangled Banner”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1wLtAXDggg>

Children’s Message on Flag Day: *by Mark Van Buren, on being a public servant*

Call to God’s Word: *Unison*

“Scripture cannot be set aside... What does Scripture say?” John 10:35 & Romans 4:3.

Prayer for Illumination: *Unison*

Lord, through your Spirit enable us to consider your Word, and to enact it in our lives to bring you glory and praise. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 12:14-21 (NIV)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew+12%3A14-21&version=NIV>

SERMON: "Here is My Servant" by The Reverend Dr. Janet Hufford

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2G5uHtQJewE&list=PLAdy2hvW6PL93B6hbgswTxf93Evs575yd>

"Here is my servant whom I have chosen," Isaiah writes, as recorded in 42:1. "Here is my servant."

In his ministry on earth, as Isaiah wrote, Jesus was in the position of a servant. In the Gospel of John although Jesus' feet were anointed in Bethany, before he rode into Jerusalem as King, just before the Passover, Jesus assumed the role of servant in washing his disciples feet. This act of servitude is in fact the focus of the Last Supper in John. But most especially Jesus takes on the role of servant in his death, whereas Isaiah writes, he does not quarrel or cry out against the crucifixion, but willingly lays down his life.

In the children's message, Mark described his being a public servant, an elected official to carry out his role in service to the local public. Elected officials, as public servants, are entrusted, without going against the law, to represent the will of the people. They are representatives of the people, to carry out the will of the people. "Of the people, by the people, and for the people" are the words that president Abraham Lincoln used to describe government in the Gettysburg address. In fact, "polis" is the root of the word politics, meaning "for the people."

However, although Jesus came "for the people," as a servant, he is not a public servant. He does not represent the will of people. This is important. This is key. Listen carefully. Jesus serves the will of the Father. Jesus did indeed lay down his life for us as a servant who did not quarrel or cry out, but this was to serve not our will, but the perfect will of the Father. Jesus willingly set aside his will, taking up the cup of death that was not removed from him, though he thrice prayed in the garden of Gethsemane, to take up the Father's will by taking up our sins at his death upon the cross. If Jesus were to serve the will of the people, chaos and confusion would reign. Although we are grateful for public servants, especially sincere Christians who are public servants, no one can please all of the people all of the time, as the saying goes. Pleasing the will of the people was not Jesus' role as servant. Pleasing the will of the Father is Jesus' role as servant. Jesus serves the Father, whose will for the people is best for all people. God's will for us is better than our will for us.

Further, consider this, after washing the disciples feet, John 13:14-17 records Jesus saying, "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." Jesus is a servant to do the will of the Father. With Jesus as our model, we are called to do the same.

Sometimes those in the church see elders, as public servants, those who are to represent the will of the people. But that is not the role of the presbyter, the teaching or ruling elder. An

elder is not a public servant. An elder, like Jesus is a servant, who seeks the will of the Father through prayer and discernment through the Word of God. Consider the Psalms, which more than once instruct the reader to wait on the Lord. A servant may wait for the time that the master calls upon him or her to act. However, the waiting of a servant is active. After all, those who serve us in restaurants are referred to as waiters. They wait on those they serve. Such is how we serve and wait on God. We do wait in time to hear the want and will of the one we serve, but even in that waiting we wait on those whom we serve. We wait on the Lord. Like Jesus, we are his servant. We wait to hear what we as a servant should do, but even in waiting we wait on God. We wait to carry out the will of the Father. We are servants of God, but not just servants.

After Jesus washes the disciples' feet, in John 15:13- Jesus says to them and subsequently to us, "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last." We are servants of God, but willing servants. We don't do God's will simply out of duty, but our will is turned over to God's will. We are friends with God.

We could believe that we are to please the will of the people, as a public servant, to try to please all the people all the time or as in democracy at least "the majority." Thank God for public servants who are disciples of Jesus, seeking God's will. But God who is our friend, wants all of us to surrender our will to him, so that our can be reshaped to match his good and pleasing and perfect will. For then our delight and desire is reshaped to match his delight and desire. For the will of God is the only will that is for good of all the people. As mere humans, our will is limited and selfish. It might be for the good of some or even most, but not all. God's will is the only perfect will. So when we submit as a servant to God, when we bow our will to God's will, by waiting on and serving God we serve all people best. Not just a particular local constituency or even those of a nation, but all people. For God the Father brought his Son to earth to serve him. The Father gave his Son up to die upon the cross. At the start of Jesus' earthly ministry, before feet were washed, according to John 3:13-16, Jesus said, "No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven –the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

And now hear again the words from Isaiah 42:1-4 written in Matthew 12:18-21: "Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he has brought justice through to victory. In his name the nations will put their hope." Hear that? The nations. All people. The Son was chosen to serve the Father. We

are chosen to serve the Son to do the perfect will of the Father. Chosen, let us be willing servants who wait on the Lord.

PRAYERS OF JOYS & CONCERNS, FOLLOWED BY THE LORD’S PRAYER: *Unison*

Please call or email Pastor Janet or the church office with prayer requests for Sunday worship and this email prayer chain.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Please Continue to Give in Dedication to Our Lord and Savior, Jesus

Prayer Of Dedication: *Unison*

God, in view of your mercy help us to offer ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to you, O God. Amen. *Romans 12:1*

Doxology

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqpXWF15avU>

Closing Hymn: “Have Thine Own Way Lord”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D29AE8YVSFU>

Benediction: John 15:13 *Responsively*

“You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.” This we remember as we go in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Please join together again in worship next Sunday for Father’s Day!