

WORSHIP for October 4, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1) **Service in witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ for:**

- a) **Sally Seiberling** 11/14 details TBA (Sally went peacefully to be with Jesus midnight on 10/1)
- b) **Victor DeRose** at 2pm on Friday 10/9 using zoom worship link.

2) Please remain after 10:45am Zoom worship on 10/11 to achieve required quorum of 19 persons at **special congregational meeting** for election of: ruling elders, deacons, & nominating

committee and installation into classes of 2021 & 2023.

3) 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 Facebook from the

homepage. To potentially increase subscribers & views,  like and  share!

4) 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 janetann386@gmail.com

Zoom live worship attendance: 9/27 53, 10/4 ?, 10/11 ?, 10/18 ?, 10/25?.

5) If you need a COVID-19 **cloth mask** call 740-901-1232 for the Johnsons, who lead the CRT. Thank you to Gage Marcum & Katie Slaymaker, who have been making masks available.

6) **Junior Church & Good News Club** (by FPCP) new Lessons **on Zoom** for 2nd thru 5th graders 4:30-5:30pm Wednesdays 10/21-11/18; Lead Teacher, Linda Glenn; email:

lindajfglenn@gmail.com

Prelude played by Collin Richardson, "All Creatures of Our God and King"

public domain; by St Francis of Assisi, 1255

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QX_eYGtEQz8&list=PLAdy2hvW6PL8_1itXDbTRrCel331DmVVU&index=7&t=0s

Call to Worship: Psalm 136:1-9, 25-26 Responsively

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

ALL: His love endures forever. (repeat response to each below)

2 Give thanks to the God of gods.

3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

4 to him who alone does great wonders,

5 who by his understanding made the heavens,

6 who spread out the earth upon the waters,

7 who made the great lights –

8 the sun to govern the day,

9 the moon and stars to govern the night;

25 He gives good to every creature.

26 Give thanks to the God of heaven.

Opening Hymn: **"Now Thank We All Our God"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5GvSMerBDUc>

Prayer of Confession: *Unison*

Ours is to be an attitude of gratitude toward you. For you are Our Provider, Our Shelter, Our Protector, and Our Sustainer. Yet our prayers are often concentrated with request after request, rather than praise after praise. Forgive this great sin and set our focus aright, O Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: *Responsively*

Thank you for your love, which came to us in your Son, Jesus, who extended your great mercy in his willing sacrifice of death upon the cross. 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: “Break Thou the Bread of Life”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TAZrT8SVYBM>

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: 1 Timothy 1:12-2:7 (NIV)

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+timothy+1%3A12-2%3A7&version=NIV>

SERMON: “Thanks be Given” by The Reverend Dr. Janet Hufford

Watch sermon on: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAdy2hvW6PL93B6hbgswTxf93Evs575yd>

Paul in today’s passage gives thanks and urges that thanks be given by those in the church. Giving thanks is not primarily prayer, but worship & praise! I am thankful that you gave me leave in the last two weeks. I took the opportunity for virtual online training & prayer events. The first training was on worship. I bring back important reminders for all of us. First, a clear distinction was made between prayer & worship & between teaching & worship. The one who delivers teaching & preaching may worship in doing so. However, those who hear preaching & teaching may be merely receiving, rather than worshipping. Worship is not something received, but worship is given to God. Hear the distinction? Prayer, on the other hand, is two way communication between God and us. But still most of us need to grow in listening prayer, even during preaching & teaching, to be better receivers of what God speaks. Now different than teaching and prayer is worship. Worship is not an act of receiving. Worship is not at all

about us. Therefore, I will no longer begin Sunday services by saying, "Please enjoy the prelude," for example. Worship is not about our enjoying music, sermons or surroundings. We don't go to worship for an hour on Sunday. Worship is our acknowledging God, preferably at all times & in all places. Worship is directed fully at God. Worship is one direction only. Worship is a condition of our heart being completely surrendered to God. Worship occurs when we focus fully on the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All of the aforementioned points of worship are also given expectations with today's passage and sermon.

Paul begins by giving thanks to Jesus, who assigned him as an apostle, one who is sent to proclaim the Good News of Christ, which is why he travels to preach, but also writes letters to churches and pastors, like Timothy. Take note that the Good News to Paul is not due to being given his high apostolic position. The Good News to Paul is the love & mercy of God that comes thru Jesus.

Paul says that Jesus, the foundation of the church, came into world. In love (v. 15) Jesus came to sinners, of which Paul admits that he is the worst. In v. 13 Paul confesses that he was "once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man." The description is apt for Paul, first mentioned as Saul in Scripture in Acts 8:1, concerning the stoning to death of the deacon Stephen, which states, "And Saul approved of their killing him." Saul's continued sinful behavior is summed up two verses later in v. 3: "But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison." Saul's sin then comes to a peak in Acts 9:1-2: "Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem." These verses from Acts 8 & 9 illustrate why Paul refers to himself as the worst of sinners.

But love & mercy thru conviction of sin is a true gift of love thru Jesus. For Paul this happened in Acts 9:3-6: As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." In v. 15 Ananias, who was in the city of Damascus where Paul went, was told by Jesus about Paul: "This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel." Upon meeting Paul, Ananias then said in v. 17: "Brother Saul, the Lord – Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here – has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Paul accepted 1st conviction of his sin and 2nd the call to his apostolic ministry, but maintained his humble gratitude for Christ's forgiveness. Now returning to 1Tim 1:16 Paul admits, "I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal live." As an example for us.

Thereby, in 2:1 Paul also urges: "then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people," including those in authority over governments. An important word for today as we prepare for the November election. Other events that I

attended virtually in Washington D.C. while on leave was a prayer walk by the Graham association and also simultaneously there another call to prayer by Messianic Jews. In v. 3-4 Paul explains in referring to government authorities that God “wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is 1 God & 1 mediator between God & mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.” For this all people should pray, as does Paul.

Fittingly, today’s passage which exhort thanks comes to us on world communion Sunday, a day to share in the Lord’s supper with all believers in all places. The Lord’s supper is also referred to as the Eucharist, in Greek Eucharisto, which is a word spoken to give thanks. Eucharisto is spoken to say thank you. Jesus gave thanks for the bread and juice of the grape vine at his last Passover supper in Jerusalem, recorded in Luke and quoted later by Paul in a letter he writes to the church of Corinth, another site visited on Paul’s 2nd missionary journey with Silas and Timothy. We’ll hear these words later when we celebrate communion.

Following Jesus words, 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 exhorts this:

“So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ, eat and drink judgement on themselves. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. But if we were more discerning with regard to ourselves, we would not come under such judgment. Nevertheless, when we are judged in this way by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be finally condemned with the world.”

Discipline and conviction of sin is a grace of love and mercy, for which Paul and we should be thankful, especially as we take the thanksgiving meal of the Eucharist. This is why today, we come to pause for a time of silent confession, following the message and just before communion, focusing in worship of Jesus, but also in a prayer of confession allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal to us places where behaviors and attitudes keep us from God. A short time of silence will be followed by an interlude of “Let Us Break Bread Together” for further reflection. *(Pause now for a time of silent confession.)*

Song for Silent Confession: “Let Us Break Bread Together”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6N00OE4i6hA>

Invitation to Communion

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

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.

COMMUNION

Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. and was buried. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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: “The Church’s One Foundation”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jotNbcFelX4>

Benediction: *Responsively*

With great gratitude, go forth into to the world to proclaim the Gospel of Christ, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

TABLE TALK

For what about God are you most thankful?