



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) 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!
- 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 fpcofpataskala@gmail.com
- 3) **One "Zoom" Schoolhouse** 10-10:30am Sundays for all ages 1/10-2/14 RP3: read, picture, ponder, & put into action Bible basics. Kids & youth earn special awards for perfect attendance!
- 4) The regular FPCP **session meeting** is 6:30pm (2nd) Thursday, January 14th, on Zoom.
- 5) Have **communion** elements of bread and juice of the grape vine, at table in your home on Sunday January 17th at 10:45am on zoom. If you need elements provided to you, call 740-901-1232 to reach the Johnsons, who lead the Christian Response Team.
- 6) January is Awareness of Human Sex Trafficking Month. A speaker from Gracehaven came on Zoom worship on 1/3. There numerous ways to help, including giving. Those interested can donate to FPC with Gracehaven in the memo area of the check. Giving can also be done on the website: www.gracehaven.me and participating in the Blueprint for Hope fundraising campaign there.

WORSHIP for Epiphany - January 03, 2021

Call to Worship: Psalm 47:6-9 *Unison*

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

**The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham,
for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.**

Opening Hymn: **"One Small Child"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bYoH6js1ecE>

Prayer of Confession: *Unison*

While other nations came to you in worship and humility, your own people turned away and did not believe. The same sins continue with us. Save us from our ourselves, we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen

(Pause now for a time of silent confession.)

Assurance of Forgiveness: *Responsively*

*The king over all the universe, the God of all, came to earth in the flesh in Christ Jesus. For us
and*

for our forgiveness he died and rose to life. 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: “What Child Is This?”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnFVLDVP_x4

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.

Scripture Readings: Ephesians 1:15-23

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1%3A15-23&version=NIV>

Anthem played and sung by Brent Miller, “Mary, Did You Know?”

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-uxkGBmrSQ&list=PLAdy2hvW6PL8_1itXDbTRrCeI331DmVVU&index=3

SERMON: “Head Over Everything” by The Reverend Dr. Janet Hufford

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

As we heard last week, Ephesians is about being in God’s family. While under house arrest in Rome, Paul writes to the church in Ephesus about their benefits in God’s family: the glorious inheritance of salvation and redemption in will with the Father, through the blood of Christ Jesus the Son, sealed by the Holy Spirit. In today’s passage, the last portion of chapter 1, Paul gives great comfort in declaring Jesus as the head of everything for the church and family of God, which is his body. Further this Scripture is read on epiphany, the anniversary of when the Magi, the wise men from east, bring gifts of riches to the Christ child, whose coming to the earth was revealed and enlightened by the brightest star in the sky that came to rest over Bethlehem. Hear Ephesians 1:15-23.

Jesus is the head of the family. Further, Jesus is not just head of the church, but has rule, authority, power and dominion over everything for every time, in the present and the future. What Good News for us! Jesus is Lord of all. Nothing is over him. All things are under his feet. But there are times when does not seem so.

From the start of his time on earth, Jesus’ life was threatened. As said, the sermon is preached when we celebrate the anniversary of Epiphany, when Magi from the east came to Jerusalem asking about the one born as the king of the Jews recorded in Matthew 2. At that time, King Herod laid out a plan to search out & kill the child. Then when Joseph & Mary

escaped into Egypt, to avoid Jesus' death, the disturbed, but powerful, King retaliated by having killed all the boys under 2 years in the vicinity of Bethlehem. During this time, it did not seem that Jesus had all things under his feet. & when we see the death & suffering of children on earth today, it does not seem like Jesus has all things under his feet. When babies are aborted, or children are abused, neglected, or abandoned. When children die for lack of water, food or medical care. When children die from disease or illness. When children die from lack of being held & comforted. When children are exploited in human trafficking. When children suffer it does not seem that all things are under Jesus' feet.

But then after the time of his baptism, when the Holy Spirit came upon him in power, Jesus started to preach the Good News of the Kingdom of heaven, demonstrated by signs of Jesus' healing people, who were sick with various diseases. Those with severe pain, with leprosy, having seizures, & paralyzed. Those with fever, demon-possessed, blind, & mute. But not all people were healed. And since the death & suffering of people are still on earth, it does not seem like Jesus has all things under his feet. When there is still no cure for cancer, the common cold, nor as of yet COVID-19. When addictions & mental illness still seem to rule. It does not seem that all things are under Jesus' feet.

Further, as a result of Jesus demonstrating the power of the kingdom, not only did kings and government leaders turn against Jesus, but so did the Jewish priests & other religious leaders. Like kings threatened by Jesus as anointed Messiah, Jewish religious leaders were not glad for Jesus' healing power, but saw him as a threat to them, & plotted to kill him. Thus, in time, government & religious leaders joined forces for Jesus to be undergo trial & to be taken under arrest. At which point, Jesus seemed to be under the feet of these leaders. He was mocked, spat upon, & beaten. He was forced to carry his own cross. He was stripped of his clothes. He suffered the most humiliating of all deaths, when Jesus was stripped and hung on the cross. There, those who stood literally under his feet witnessed his shame and suffering. Jesus did not seem then to have all things under his feet. He did not seem have all rule, authority, power & dominion over everything & every time, in the present & the future. Though his head was topped with a crown, it was one of thorns. Though above his head was written: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews," it was written not as a declaration of his title, but as a charge & an expression of mocking. And when there is still bullying, beatings, & betrayals on earth, it does not seem that all things are under Jesus' feet.

Then the time came for Jesus' death. When the one, who some had thought was the long-awaited Messiah, died. When the one, who was believed to have come to rescue the Jews from their suffering under the yoke of Roman rule and religious burdens, lost his life. When his dead body was removed from the cross by those who watched him die from under his feet. When he was wrapped in burial cloths and laid in a tomb. When the stone was rolled across the entrance and was sealed. When all hope seemed dead and gone. Certainly, then Jesus, now dead, did not seem to have all rule, authority, power and dominion under his feet. For truth is, His body was dead.

So if not by Jesus' power, by whose power and mighty strength was Christ raised from the dead? A dead body cannot raise itself. The power came not from Jesus, but from the Holy Spirit through whom Jesus was conceived and who anointed him to preach and heal on earth.

The power of the Holy Spirit raised Jesus' body from the grave.

The power of the Holy Spirit also raised Jesus' body from earth to be seated at the right hand of the Father in the heavenly realms. It from Jesus' place on the throne with the Father, where all rule, authority, power and dominion are under his feet in the present and the future, including now, even when existing conditions make it seem like not everything is under his feet. And why is that so, if it is true that everything is under Jesus feet?

Take note that Paul states that the church is his body and that Jesus is the head. But if Jesus' body was dead until raised by the power of the Holy Spirit, maybe it seems as though we too as his body and church are dead, if we have not been raised by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus is far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. So, question is are we fully submitted and committed to Christ as head of this church family called FPCP? Are we raised in his power? Are we under his feet? Or do we expect him to submit to our requests and petitions? Our wants & desires? Have we fully submitted to Christ as head of the church to receive such power? Have we prayed for the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and into heaven?

And if we do, what will come to be on earth as it is in heaven? Will more children come to Christ, and be saved by his grace? Will more people be healed, of illness and disease, physically, mentally, emotionally, relationally, and especially spiritually, drawing close to God by receiving Jesus as Lord, finding hope in his great love, grace, and peace? What fullness will come to the world through the church, which is his body? The only way to know is to receive the power and mighty strength of the Holy Spirit. Don't we need this now, during these difficult times? Don't we need this always? All we need to do is to ask and in trust receive, for all things are truly under the feet of Jesus, according to God's word as written to the church of Ephesus representative of His Church on earth. May it be according to the word of God. Amen.

Speaker from Gracehaven for human sex trafficking awareness & giving opportunity.

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

Prayer Of Dedication: *Unison*

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>

Hymn of Response: "We Three Kings"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8mjRxkMBkE>

PRAYERS of Joy and Concern, followed by:

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.**

Closing Hymn: "As With Gladness Men of Old"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bfn2FlqmWO8>

Benediction: Ephesian 6:23-24 *Responsively*

Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love,... in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**