

Penns Valley Charge U.M.C. Worship Service for Sunday, August 30, 2020

Weekly messages are available by phone 24/7 starting Sunday at 814-422-6238.

Watch the service online starting Sunday at www.PennsValleyParish.info

Pastor Theresa M. Heiser; theiser@susumc.org; 814-883-9510; PO Box 211, Centre Hall 16828

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *Learning to Love Our Enemies* series begins September 6th!
- Pastor Theresa is on vacation August 24-30. Pastor Valerie Delooze is on call, 814-880-2367.
- September 6th we will resume worship at Trinity UMC 8:30am, St. James UMC 9:45am and Sprucetown UMC 11am

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, we come in search of you and your loving wisdom. Come to us and gather us in your love. Mold us into a community of compassion that is strengthened by the unity and power of your Holy Spirit. In joyous gratitude, we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Singing For God Based on Acts 16:16-40

JOYS AND CONCERNS - PASTORAL PRAYER (*The Lord's Prayer "trespass"*)

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Matthew 16:21-28

MESSAGE Divine Things

BLESSING OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Please support your church locally and around the world. Send your offering to:

Faith UMC – mail to – Kathy Eisenhuth, PO Box 15, Spring Mills PA 16875-0015

St. James UMC – mail to – St. James UMC, PO Box 90, Coburn PA 16832-0090

Sprucetown UMC – mail to – Tawnya Childs, 133 B. Dobson Drive, Centre Hall PA 16828

Trinity UMC – mail to – Trinity UMC, PO Box 157, Woodward PA 16882-0157

This Week's Study: Holding Fast

Read Matthew 16:21-28 and Romans 12:9-21

How does the Romans 12:9 verse function as a general statement that the rest of the passage specifies how it is lived out? *[For example, our love is genuine when we show others honor, and so forth.]*

In the list that Paul gives in this passage (Romans 12:9-21), which do you think is most at odds (contrary) with our culture?

Why might the feeling of getting revenge be fleeting? (vv. 19-20)

Why would overcoming evil with good be the best solution?

Just moments after declaring Jesus as Messiah and Son of the Living God, Peter is rebuked by Jesus. What is Peter missing? *[Jesus is a Messiah, but not a sword-wielding Messiah riding forcefully on horseback. Instead, he comes humbly, riding on a donkey and defeating evil through the sacrifice of his life.]*

How are we often guilty of making Jesus into our image?

How are Jesus' teachings (especially in vv. 24-26), life, death, and resurrection the foundation for what Paul can teach in Romans 12?

Where is Jesus calling you to "hold fast" to love?

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God of Hope, empower us to hold fast to your gracious and loving presence. In our holding on, give us the courage to reach out in mercy and forgiveness so that others might feel the light and warmth of your love. Amen.