

Penns Valley Charge U.M.C. Worship Service for Sunday, November 15, 2020

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Nov. 15 - PV Charge Conference 3pm at Trinity UMC, Woodward

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come! Share the joy of the Lord!

P: Delight in God's goodness!

L: Praise God who gives each person a special gift to be nurtured and shared.

P: Lord, we thank you for these gifts!

L: Come, let us worship God who entrusts us with so much.

P: Lord, make us worthy of your love and trust in us. AMEN.

OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, we gratefully acknowledge the gifts you have given to each of us for service in your world. Gifts of teaching, healing, inspiring, challenging and creating are all among the myriad of things you have placed in our lives. Direct our lives to use these gifts as we reach out to our neighborhood and nation, witnessing to your love and your healing mercy. We pray this in Jesus' name. AMEN.

BLESSING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS – DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE God Knows Me [Based on Psalm 139]

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

SELECTED SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:14-30

MESSAGE Multiplying Our Impact

*HYMN A Charge to Keep I Have UMH #413

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Next Week our message is *Entrusted with Each Other*

PASTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

BIBLE STUDY: Enter into the Joy

Read Matthew 25:14-30

- Does the master in this parable seem fair? Or does he seem harsh? Why is that the case?
- Since wealth was not easily obtained in those days, people who did have wealth had an easier time making a profit. It would have been fairly easy to turn a profit even with small amounts of resources.[1] Why do you think the last person portrays the master the way he does? *[Notice the master is fairly generous by entrusting the slaves with lots of resources, and he invites them to enter his joy. The last slave is the only one who portrays the master as harsh.]* Does this change your assumption about the fairness of the master in the parable? Why or why not?
- What might it mean to “enter into the joy of the master” in verses 21 and 23?
- How does this passage connect to last week’s passage? *[Both are about acting wisely. Last week’s passage was about acting wisely with our time. This passage is about acting wisely with our stewardship.]*
- It is an oversimplification to equate talents and money in this parable. Certainly, Jesus is not equating the amount of wealth one has or doesn’t have with being blessed. Why do you think we often connect those? *[It is easy to focus on material objects.]* What do you think truly being blessed looks like? *[Being blessed concerns relationships and fruit of the spirit.]*
- How does the world define joy? *[Accumulating things; financial success]* How would you define joy?
- Work as a group to list as many activities that bring joy as you can in five minutes (For example, going for a hike, calling a friend, reading Scripture, meditating, and so on.) Have each participant choose one new activity for the week to help bring joy.
- How might you be intentional in looking for joy this week? How can the group help?

CLOSING PRAYER

God of joy, we confess the temptation to look first at what we are lacking instead of seeing your abundance. Help us to be more aware of how you have provided for us that we might experience joy in unexpected places. Guide our thoughts that we might focus on your grace, your beauty, and your mercy. Amen.