

“TAKE 10”- Worship While Away! (Sunday, October 22, 2017)

Share: Lord, you have welcomed us, saying, “I know you by name, and you have found favor with me.”
Lord, you have promised us, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”
Lord, you have blessed us, saying, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you.”
Lord, you have humbled us, saying, “I will proclaim my holy name in your presence.”
Lord, show us your glory! We see to worship you today!

Read these words from a hymn today: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

Read this scripture from worship: Matthew 22:15-22 (*The Message*)

¹⁵⁻¹⁷ That's when the Pharisees plotted a way to trap him into saying something damaging. They sent their disciples, with a few of Herod's followers mixed in, to ask, “Teacher, we know you have integrity, teach the way of God accurately, are indifferent to popular opinion, and don't pander to your students. So, tell us honestly: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Jesus knew they were up to no good. He said, “Why are you playing these games with me? Why are you trying to trap me? Do you have a coin? Let me see it.” They handed him a silver piece.

²⁰ “This engraving—who does it look like? And whose name is on it?”

²¹ They said, “Caesar.”

“Then give Caesar what is his, and give God what is his.”

²² The Pharisees were speechless. They went off shaking their heads.

Talk together, responding to these questions:

- How do we test or try to trap people? How did that go for the Pharisees in their relationship with Jesus?
- How does God show his way to us today?
- Consider your spiritual gifts. How do you use them in the service of God and others? Consider your material gifts. How do you make use of these possessions and also use them in the service of God and others?
- When have we been left speechless by a revelation of God?

Pray together:

You know each of us by name, O God, and in your sight, we have found favor, yet our minds cannot comprehend the vision of your glory or the vastness of your love. Grant that as we glimpse your greatness, reflected in your many gifts, we may always return to you the praise, honor, and service that is yours alone. Use us for the glory of your kingdom and the good of your people. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bless one another:

Take each person's hand and say. "God's grace is for you, God's love is upon you, God's call is within you. Be kind to yourself this week."

Resources Used: *Glory to God*, The Presbyterian Hymnal
Call to Worship, Year A, Lectionary Aids for 2016-2017