



WPPC is now worshipping in person at 10:00am while also providing a Zoom connection for those who cannot attend on any given Sunday.



Mark 10:17-31

How Do We Measure Wealth?

For most people this question of wealth is simple. It's about money and lots of it. The more you have, the more power and freedom you have. I mean, imagine if you won a billion-dollar lottery. You don't have to spend it all on yourself, you can help build schools and hospitals, become a philanthropist and start an endowment for the church you love! Well, looks like a great way to measure wealth to me, no? In our culture and society wealth is often reduced to possession of material goods that can translate into power and money.

However that's not the way Jesus sees it. As a matter-of-fact Jesus says give up all your possessions and give it to the poor and follow his way to enter the kingdom of God. The gospel story for this coming Sunday is about a rich man encountering Jesus, concerned with what he should do to inherit the kingdom of God. But the rich man was disappointed by the answer Jesus gave him, and walked away. Then Jesus turned to his disciples and said a proverb that went viral among Christians through the centuries: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

How are we going to wrestle with this text today? Where is the good news in all this? But first let me be clear -- Jesus didn't say money was a bad thing. He said give it to the poor who don't have much. And what if the rich man did give away all that he had to the poor, wouldn't that make him poor without any possessions? Did Jesus really mean to give up everything? The words of Jesus seem extreme. Who can take his words literally? And what's this cryptic saying that it's impossible but possible with God? What is the point Jesus is making in the gospel story and how would he measure wealth? Look around our world; people fight over possessions, whether they be land, oil, or any other material goods. The whole point of colonization and its history was for that sole purpose, exploitation for material possession of land and people. What's happening in the Middle East is more than just a response to "terrorism" to eliminate Hamas and Hezbollah (groups that emerged in response to military occupation of Israel as resistance fighters for their homeland). We would be naive to think that's all there is when you have oil and gas rich land, an ideal geopolitical location and cheap labor by colonized people. We have to ask ourselves, if we really want to understand Jesus' point, who was on his way to being executed by Roman Imperial power (an empire that covered vast land and peoples) with the message that was diametrically opposed to empire building and dominance and oppression of peoples. If Jesus had anything to do with wealth, his possession and measure was truth in one hand and the other, an imminent death on the cross. What do I mean by this? Come to church this Sunday and find out. Let us worship God. Amen. Pastor Dae

Landscape Improvements Completed!

Several people expressed concerns amongst themselves about the condition of our outdoor space. They decided to do something about it (after asking permission). The result is massive improvements all around our building, arranged by Betsy Calvert-Corlew and executed through Jon Anderson's company, *Jon's LawnScape & More*.

Please thank the following people, who funded these improvements with their donations: Bob and Ellen Morton, Myra Boswell, Mary Ann Dudko, Al Baume, Betsy Calvert-Corlew, Elizabeth Torres and Samuel Maldonado, and Nunu Woldearegay.

We are grateful for their efforts!

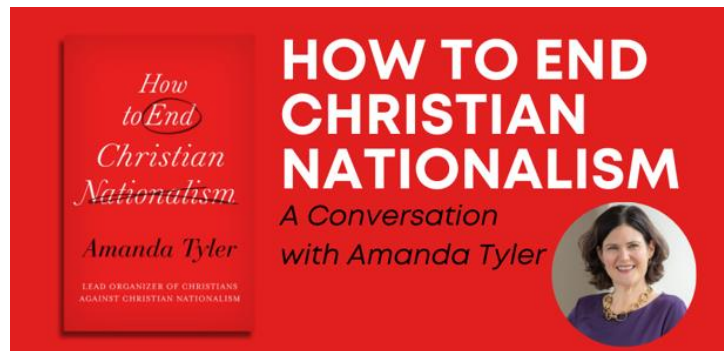


Remembering in our Prayers
Those with special needs:
Tom Koch, Bill Prouty,
Katie Perrin, Marjorie Strong,
Dennis Hayman, Michael McCaffrey,
David Mueller, Kristin Booth (Judy Dardaganian's daughter), Nancy Stevens, Jim Kimery



Remembering our Neighbors in Need Food Basket Sunday –October 13

You are invited to bring your gifts of food, toddler sized diapers, and pull-tab single serve microwaveable meals to worship on **Sunday, October 13**. You may drive up and drop off items at the curb in front of the church. We'll bring them into the sanctuary for blessing at the end of the worship service. Thank you for your gifts.



Amanda Tyler, a member of Royal Lane Baptist Church in Dallas, will discuss her new book, "How to End Christian Nationalism" on **October 20, 4:00 PM** at the church, 6707 Royal Lane, Dallas 75230. Amanda is the founder and lead organizer of Christians Against Christian Nationalism. The book will be released on October 22. Registration is required and can be completed at the link below.

If you'd like to carpool, we'll leave from WPPC at 3:15.

https://secure.everyaction.com/vfkKzLEf_U-aFxr5SkTOFw2



Lectionary Bible study Wednesdays at 11:00 AM



Prayer Concerns-

Week of October 13, 2024

- Billy Ray Uselton, Jr., a friend of Gary Peterson, passed away September 19. He was only 50, but had multiple health issues. Prayers for his wife, Darcy, and his family. (9/17)
- Continued prayers for the Petersons' friends Mike and Janet Motley. Mike had been hospitalized with the flu and pneumonia early September. Shortly after getting home he was back in the hospital with Covid, and then had a collapsed lung. On Wednesday they found he had a perforated bowel, and had surgery. Prayers for healing.



Looking Ahead to the Feast of All Saints - November 3

One of the most important days on the liturgical calendar is the Feast of All Saints' Day. This day has great meaning for us as we remember those who have completed their earthly pilgrimage in death and have received God's promised rest. Having received the promise of their baptism, these saints have joined the great company of all those who share in Christ's glory. In keeping with tradition, we will remember those who have died in the last twelve months.

If you wish to have your loved ones included in this remembrance, **please submit their names**, relationship to you, and date of death **by Sunday, October 27th to Rochelle in the Office.**

Part of WPPC's tradition has been to make use of liturgical art for this Sunday. Once again, this year we will make use of our Tree of Life triptych (three-paneled art) which draws up scriptures from Ezekiel and Revelation. These paintings are on permanent display on the west wall in the library but are brought into the sanctuary for use in this service.



This week's flowers are given to the Glory of God by Priscilla Kimery in celebration of her son's birthday.

This week's hospitality is sponsored by Barb Peterson in celebration of Gary Peterson's birthday.



With thanksgiving, we were joined by these people on ZOOM on October 6, 2024

Brenda Hoffman, Don Eichenberger,
Calvin George, Barb & Don Kiser
Dennis Hayman



The Plano African American Museum will host our 2nd annual fundraiser "**When Food Speaks**" Saturday, October 12, 2024 from 4:00pm - 9:00pm at the Museum, 900 13th Street Plano Texas 75074. This event celebrates the food culture brought over by the enslaved souls from Africa. This year we are celebrating Gumbo! If you feel your gumbo is the best, we encourage you to enter our Gumbo Cookoff. Chief Keith Boudreaux will be one of our celebrity judges and he will provide a short history of the origin of gumbo. **Unfaded Brass** will provide live entertainment with a second line celebration. There will be door prizes and much more!!!

A ticket price of \$40 will include food provided by Tooties Southern Kitchen, drink special, samples of all the different gumbos available, and you also sample the cookoff contestants' gumbo as a judge for the People's Choice Award. A ticket for \$30 will include food provided by Tooties Southern Kitchen, drink and entertainment.

The Plano African American Museum is committed to telling the story of African American culture, history and community in Plano, Collin County, Texas and North America.

Please visit our website at: www.PlanoAfricanAmericanMuseum.org for more information and to purchase your ticket and/or enter the cookoff.

SEE YOU THERE!!!!

Upcoming Events at WPPC

Saturday, October 12	Sunday, October 20
<i>North Texas Pride Festival</i>	<i>Stewardship Witness</i>
4:00 pm Girl Scouts	10:00 am Sunday Worship
	4:00 pm Spunky Church
Sunday, October 13	
<i>Stewardship Witness</i>	Monday, October 21
<i>Food Basket Sunday</i>	10:00 am Deacons Meeting
10:00 am Sunday Worship	5:30 pm Boy Scouts
7:00 pm MJS meeting (via Zoom)	
	Tuesday, October 22
Monday, October 14	7:00 pm Session Meeting
5:30 pm Boy Scouts	
	Wednesday, October 23
Wednesday, October 16	11:00 am Lectionary Study
11:00 am Lectionary Study	7:00 pm Choir
7:00 pm Choir	
	Friday, October 25
Thursday, October 17	9:00 am 4th Friday Men's Breakfast
6:00 pm Plano Photography Club	
	Saturday, October 26
Saturday, October 19	4:00 pm Girl Scouts
4:00 pm Girl Scouts	