

WEEKDAY WORSHIP

September 30-October 6, 2019

Worship as encounter with the living God cannot be limited to one hour per week. "Weekday Worship" invites you to extend your worship beyond the sanctuary, to hear the story of the Bible as your story, lived out each day of each week. Feedback is appreciated and should be directed to Rita Boyer.

BIBLE READING

This week's reading is: 2 Timothy 1:1–14 (<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=435132066>).

Other readings are: Lamentations 1:1–6, 3:19–26; Luke 17:5–10.

The theme is: The Heirloom of Faith.

What is your faith story? How were you introduced to the Christian faith? How did it take root and grow in your life? As you reflect on your faith story, you probably recall particular people and the relationships that you shared. In this second letter to a young Christian leader named Timothy, the author (most likely not Paul but one who spoke with Paul's authority) reminds Timothy of his faith story. He refers to Timothy as "my beloved child" (vs 2), indicating the loving relationship that they share. Mentioning Timothy's mother and grandmother, the author recognizes that Timothy's faith can be traced through two previous generations of strong and faithful women. In so doing, he affirms what contemporary research about faith development teaches us: that having relationships with faithful people of different generations is the most significant indicator that one will have a mature faith later in life. The faith that "lived first" (vs. 5) in Timothy's grandmother and then in his mother now lives in him, and it is time for Timothy to "rekindle" (vs. 6) that gift of faith. Faith is generative. It has been alive through the generations and will bring life to Timothy even in the darkest hour. Timothy's faith is his "treasure" (vs 14), having come to him through his family, which now includes the author of this letter. Our stories are intertwined. As we tell our stories to others, we become part of their story. These important relationships in which we share our stories and our love, in which we pray for one another, enliven faith and see us through whatever trials we must face.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

"Questions to Consider" enable you to connect your story to the biblical story. Rather than easy questions to be answered at first glance, these questions or reflections can be returned to and meditated upon throughout the week.

Reflect on your faith story.

Who modeled the life of faith to you and is now part of your story?

With whom are you sharing your story?

Continue to reflect upon the worship theme of September 29:

Continue to pray for world leaders.

Prospect Presbyterian Church, Maplewood, NJ, www.prospectchurch.org

Rita Boyer, rita@prospectchurch.org