



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021, MORNING MESSAGE

REVEREND EDWARD DUNN

Eugene Peterson's paraphrase, *The Message*, retells the story we read in Mark 9:

They came to Capernaum. When he (Jesus) was safe at home, he asked them, "What were you discussing on the road?"

The silence was deafening – they had been arguing with one another over who among them was greatest.

He sat down and summoned the Twelve. "So you want first place? Then take the last place. Be the servant of all."

So much in our world associates greatness with being first. We equate success with riches and fame and power. The richest among us become the model on which we compare our own wealth. Outward beauty becomes the standard we apply to determine attractiveness. We view athletic ability as the evidence of greatness.

Yet Jesus declares that greatness in God's kingdom is not measured by the amount in our bank account, our outward appearance, or the athleticism we possess, but on the recognition that we are to love and serve one another.

This is an important season in the life of the church as Palma Sola and Westminster look to those who might serve as Elders and Deacons. Your nominating committees seek those whom they believe to be servants, not celebrities, to fill positions of leadership. Elders and Deacons need caring hearts, willing hands, and the ability to serve.

Please give prayerful consideration to how you can be a servant leader.

Blessings,
Edward