## BYOB&B: Thinking Faithfully Out Loud

A Bible Study sponsored by: First Lutheran Church, First United Methodist Church, Faith Presbyterian Church,

Monmouth College Chaplain's Office

Session 6: Think Faithfully Out Loud when faith intersects with politics

Tuesday, November 11

Scripture: Luke 20:20-26

Why are the chief priests, scribes, and others trying to trap Jesus?

Why do they ask a political question?

How does Jesus navigate the challenge before him?

### **Connecting Scripture to today**

What feelings come up when you hear a topic in church that is political in nature?

What feelings come up when you see or hear religious leaders speaking to political themes in public media/social media?

What feelings come up when you see celebrities speaking to political themes in public media/social media?

What feelings come up when your family have political conversations?

## Definitions as we begin this conversation

Inrersectionality political identity color "red"

Politics political identity color "blue"

Political Identity political identity color "green"

Progressive political identity color "purple"

Conservative

Socialist

Communist

Separation of Church and State

Cherry-Pick a verse

"You're being too political"

"The Bible says so"

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### A brief review of scriptures that are often cherry-picked for political identity purposes ...

Romans 13:1ff

Any of the clobber verses on the topic of homosexuality

1 Timothy 2:11-15

### A Brief List of Topics that come with assumed Biblical stances

LGBTQIA identity

Abortion

Marriage/divorce

National pride/Christianity-presumed as sole religion for government

Gender roles (men do X, women do Y)

Climate Change

Flat Earth/Young Earth

The modern political leanings of Jesus

#### A model for Deliberative Dialogue ... discussing hot button political topics in the Purple Zone

Create a space for Deliberative Dialogue, invite people to participate

Prepare for the dialogue by assigning roles for within the dialogue

Recorder, timekeeper, facilitator

Establish ground rules and have an opening prayer

Introduce the topic and what is at stake

Analyze the Issue and weigh options

Reflect on recurring themes, shared values, and common ground

Identify next steps

Conclude the dialogue

#### **Closing Prayer**