



## Week Two American Politics

September 18, 2016

Woodbury Lutheran Church

Pastor Mark Koschmann

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*“And this is my prayer:  
that your love may  
abound more and more  
in knowledge and depth  
of insight, so that you  
may be able to discern  
what is best and may be  
pure and blameless for  
the day of Christ, filled  
with the fruit of  
righteousness that comes  
through Jesus Christ—to  
the glory and praise of  
God.”*

***Philippians 1: 9-11***

### **WLC Class Objectives:**

- 1) Apply our Christian faith to the most pressing of issues today.
- 2) Equip ourselves for mission and ministry, especially in urban, suburban, and multicultural settings.
- 3) Grow as disciples of Jesus by placing a greater trust in Christ as our Lord and Savior. By trusting Jesus with our whole lives, we will - by the Spirit’s power - more radically love and serve others.

**Discuss:** Where do disciples of Jesus fit into the American political equation?

### **1 Timothy 2:1-8**

First of all, then, I urge that **supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings** be made for **everyone**, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a **quiet and peaceable life** in all **godliness and dignity**. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who **desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth**. For there is one God; there is also **one mediator** between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a **herald** and an **apostle** (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. I desire, then, that **in every place** the men should **pray**, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument.

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### Theology of the Two Kingdoms

#### Left hand kingdom

**God governs** civil affairs in the left hand realm through the **law**.

#### Right hand kingdom

**God governs** the church (gathering of believers) through the **gospel**.

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## God's Two Sustaining Hands

**Sep. 11:**

*Living as a  
Disciple in  
America*

**Sep. 18:**

*American Politics*

**Sep. 25:**

*War &  
Peace*

**Oct. 2:**

*Immigrants and  
Refugees*

**Oct. 9:**

*Black Lives  
Matter*

**Oct. 16:**

*The  
Messiness of  
Social Justice &  
the Beauty of the  
Gospel*

### Creation:

Redeemed and  
renewed co-workers of  
God  
(Genesis 1:26-31).

### Redemption:

God has rescued us and  
brought us into the  
kingdom of the Son  
(Colossians 1:9-14)

### The Common Good:

“The flourishing of persons in community.”

- Andy Crouch, “Religious Freedom and the Common Good”

### Voting:

“For those of us who are people of faith and moral conscience, how do we lift up love over hate in this angry election season? How do we point to justice instead of revenge? How do we love our neighbors as ourselves — which all our religious traditions tell us to do — and vote that way? And if our faith traditions also tell us that a society is ultimately judged by how it treats its most vulnerable people, how do we best vote for the concerns of the most vulnerable in this coming election?”

- Jim Wallis, Sojourners

### Christ Reigns:

“I have told you these things, so that **in me you may have peace**. In this world you will have trouble. **But take heart! I have overcome the world.**”

- John 16:33