

"TAKE A FRESH BREATH ... PRESUME ONLY THIS!"
SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 – THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
PROVERBS 25:6-7; HEBREWS 13:1-8,15-16; LUKE 14:1,7-14
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

Anticipate. We are taught early on in life, 'try to anticipate.' Look at a puzzle, a conversation, a story line, a game; try to anticipate what happens next. Trying to anticipate what is next, is far different from presuming. Assuming and presuming often gets us into trouble. To presume means 'to take for granted, to take upon one's self without receiving permission.' In Luke today, Jesus has much to say about the dangers of assuming our place, about the dangers of presuming God's way of doing things. As Jesus teaches and tells a parable about God's kingdom, we hear we are to anticipate, to assume and to presume God does things far differently from the world we live in. As we proclaim and glorify all we have heard, take a deep, fresh breath, in God's grace, do not assume our place before we are called to a higher seat, rather let us presume only this...we are to honor others as we make God first, for God in Christ has prepared our place of honor, the Lord alone exalts us!

1. Presume only this We live in a world, and we live in a Kingdom, which are at odds!
 - A. How do we balance anticipation and preparation, with assuming and presuming?
 - B. What must we guard ourselves against? Hindsight is nice. How do we improve our foresight?

2. Presume only this ... It can be quite easy to assume and to presume our place. How do we build up others, and yet establish ourselves?
Proverbs 25:6; Luke 14:7-11
 - A. It is easy for us to presume how God really works.
 - B. We would be wrong.
 - C. Trust The Lord is building you up, exalting you!

3. Presume only this One of the dangers that comes with presumption of place and assumption of exaltation, is to assume or to presume, "all know the Savior," but this is rarely the case. Hebrews 13:1-2,16; Luke 14:12-13
 - A. Presume only this ... God is pleased with you and your efforts!
 - B. Presume only this ... We are to invite, to talk to, to reach out to, family and friends, strangers, neighbors, those different, those who cannot repay.
 - C. Presume only this ... as we exalt others, as we sit with others, we are doing so to angels without knowing it!

4. Take a fresh breath in the grace of the safest presumption and assumption we can make: `God is all we need, and God alone has already prepared a place of honor and exaltation for one and all.' Proverbs 25:7; Hebrews 13:5-8; Luke 14:7-14
 - A. In a world that presumes we need so much, let us presume all we need is the Lord of our life.
 - B. Let us presume our place of honor is prepared, our exaltation is complete, through the One who humbled himself, to grace us!