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Central Congregational Church
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”
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The Politics of the Lamb

Revelation 5:1-14

Series: The Return of the King

Central Passage

Revelation 5:1–7 (ESV) — **1** Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. **2** And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” **3** And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, **4** and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. **5** And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the **Lion of the tribe of Judah**, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.” **6** And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders **I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain**, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **7** And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

Central Thought: In sharp contrast to the manipulative, deceptive and violent practices of earthly rulers and empires – represented by donkeys, and elephants and eagles – God’s rule is established and maintained through the sacrificial love of the “lamb standing, as though it had been slain,” and those that follow in his ways.

Political Realities of the Lamb

❖ We are all a part of the problem! (vs. 1-4)

Isaiah 53:6 (NLT) — **6** All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own...

Romans 3:23 (NLT) — **23** For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.

❖ The sacrifice of Jesus is the solution! (vs. 5-7)

Isaiah 53:6 (NLT) — **6** All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. **Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all.**

Romans 3:23–25 (NLT) — **23** For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. **24** Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. **He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.** **25** For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood...

Colossians 2:13–15 (NLT) — **13** You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. **14** He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. **15** **In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.**

❖ By faithfully following Christ, we are restored to our original, royal vocation! (vs. 8-10)

1 Peter 2:9 (ESV) — **9** But you are a **chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him** who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Matthew 4:18–19 (ESV) — **18** While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. **19** And he said to them, **“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”**