

04-03-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“We live our lives in the shadow of the cross, but we also live in the presence of the risen Christ. So here is an invitation to daily companionship with Jesus, at the Table, in extravagant acts of compassion and generosity, in moments of worship. All this in a world which lives by a mind-set of scarcity, rather than a mind-set of abundance, and so tempts us to close in and give little.”

- H. Stephen Shoemaker



John 12:1-8

Questions for Reflection —

- When and how in your life does a mind-set of scarcity clash with a mind-set of abundance? In what aspects of your life are you most aware of abundance? In what ways do you hold back from sharing that abundance with others? What would it look like for you to share extravagantly from/of that abundance? What would help you to do so?

- How do you demonstrate your love for and devotion to Jesus? What does/would it look like for you to serve God with all of who you are—heart, soul, mind, and strength? In what ways or in what areas of your life are you not giving fully of yourself to God? What does a sacrificial commitment to follow Jesus look like for you? What are you willing to give up for the sake of serving Jesus?

- How do your actions and responses to daily encounters with others demonstrate your commitment to a life of Christian discipleship? What needs do you see around you as you go about your daily routines? What would it look like for you to respond to those needs with extravagant acts of compassion and generosity? How can we as a congregation give more generously and act more extravagantly in response to the needs in the neighboring community, especially to address the needs people who are marginalized or oppressed?

Daily Household Prayer

Almighty God, you alone can bring gladness to our hearts, spirits, and souls. We come seeking your light and truth, yet we are people of darkness, prone to deceit. In the light of your holiness, help us to see ourselves as we are. Help us to stand before you as we are, trusting not in ourselves but solely in the power of your love to clothe us in the righteousness of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.