

03-13-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“For Jesus, God’s passionate dream, compassionate desire, and bold determination is to gather God’s human children closer and closer in God’s embrace and love. That mission and commitment is at the center of Jesus’ work. Like a mother hen, God seeks to draw, embrace, include, and welcome God’s children into the family of humanity that God has intended from the dawn of Eden itself.”

- *Michael B. Curry*



Luke 13:31-35

Questions for Reflection —

- When/how in your life have you most clearly sensed God’s loving care and protection? In what aspects of your life are you presently longing to know that care and protection? What needs and vulnerabilities do you bring before God? Who in your life might be in need of comfort and nurturing? How can you help that person to know and experience God’s loving care?

- What is your personal commitment to and role in God’s mission of welcome and inclusion that embraces people across the diversity of humanity? How might the programs and ministries of our congregation better serve God’s mission and live into God’s passionate dream that embraces all? Who might feel disconnected and excluded from our congregation? What can we do to show that we are there for them? How might they be gathered in?

- Over what places in your life do you lament? In what local places do you see secular opposition which impedes the manifestation of God’s kin-dom values? What is your role in the establishment of God’s kin-dom wherever you find yourself? Over what situations and places in the world is God presently weeping? If Jesus were to speak prophetically to those situations what message do you think he would convey? What would he call each of us individually and all of us together as a congregation to do?

Daily Household Prayer

O God, your glory is always to have mercy. Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.