

03-20-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Divine judgment...understood as the experience of God’s wrath apart from God’s mercy—is not inevitable. Rather, it is contingent upon repentance, *metanoia*, a complete turning away from former beliefs and actions in faithful acceptance of the proclamation of God’s kingdom in the person and work of Jesus Christ.”

- Daniel G. Diffenbaugh



Luke 13:1-9

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it look like for you to turn your life towards God? Away from what beliefs and actions do you need to turn in order to turn towards God? What do you need in order to embrace and claim God’s grace and mercy in your life? How can you manifest God’s compassion and mercy to those with whom you interact in daily life? How can we in our congregation offer one another love and acceptance? How do we offer God’s grace to the world?

- What does it mean for you to live a life of fruitfulness? What sort of fruit would you like to bear for the sake of God’s kin-dom? What needs to be tended in order for you to bear such fruit? What might presently be lying dormant in you? In the life of our congregation? Where in our congregation do you see evidence of fruitfulness? What needs to be planted and nurtured in order for us to bear more fruit?

- What in your life needs special tending in order for you to be fully who God calls you to be? In what aspects of your life do you need healing? What will open your heart and allow God to change you? What will bring forth new growth and transformation for you? What in the life of our congregation needs special tending so we can live into new possibilities? How can we be more open to new growth and transformation for our mission and ministries?

Daily Household Prayer

Most Holy God, this is the season of turning. We are called on this journey to turn our lives to you, to turn away from all those things which harm us and others. It is far too easy for us to sink into the mire of self-pity and self-serving attitudes, wondering why everything is not coming our way. We hurt, God. We hurt in our bodies and our souls. We hurt in our relationships with others. Always you seek to reclaim and heal us. Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life. Deal with us not as we deserve, but according to your mercy, that we may turn to you and live in the joy of serving you. Through Jesus our Savior. Amen.