

## 11-27-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“No, the season of Advent isn’t really designed to be a countdown to the celebration of Christmas. It is a time of preparation for Christ’s return and the establishment of the kin-dom of God. It is a reminder that we are heading someplace; we are works in progress; we are longing for something more.”

- Derek Weber



Isaiah 2:1-5 ✠ Matthew 24:36-44

### Questions for Reflection —

- For what are you watching and waiting as you begin your Advent journey? What are your deepest yearnings? What is the “more” for which your soul is longing this Advent season? What clutters your heart, mind, and soul? How do you deal with distractions and intrusions? What do you need in order to make more room for Jesus? What spiritual practices will enable you to become more open to God’s presence with you during your Advent journey this year?
  
- What divisions do you see in your daily life? Where and how do you experience conflict? What is your contribution to the establishment of peace in the various spheres of your life, especially in those in which you have noted conflict or division? How can conflict be replaced by community? What can you do to truly share the peace of Christ with people you encounter in your everyday life? How can we as a congregation help to make God’s peace real in the world?
  
- What darkness would you name in our world? In what ways does the kin-dom of God disrupt the darkness? What does it mean to seek God’s ways and walk in God’s light in the midst of the darkness? How does that invite you as a Christ-follower to a different way of being in the world? What relational, political, economic, and social changes are necessary in order to disrupt the darkness? What can we do as a congregation to bring God’s future promises of multiracial, multicultural, multinational unity and harmony closer to reality?

### Daily Household Prayer

Eternal God, in your providence you made all ages a preparation for the kingdom of your Son. Make ready our hearts for the brightness of your glory and the fullness of your blessing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.