03-10-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

"The coming of Jesus results in a crisis that demands a decision. Neutrality is not a possibility. In love, God sent Jesus to save the world, but each person must decide whether to believe/obey and live in the light or disobey and continue to live in the darkness." - W. Hulitt Gloer

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John 3:14-21

Questions for Reflection —

- What do you need in order to keep your heart open to God's love? What would it look like for you to let God's love flow through you to bring life and hope to others? Where do you see opportunity for our congregation to serve as instruments of God's grace and compassion for the community and world around us? How can we extend God's love to the oppressed and the marginalized?
- How does God's love for the world shape the way you live your life? What does it look like for you to extend God's love to everyone around you, including and maybe especially, across differences of ideology and lifestyle? What does it mean to choose love rather than condemnation towards those with whom you differ? What will help you to be more loving and less condemning?
- In what ways have you made the choice to live in the light of Christ? When or under what circumstances has it been difficult for you to live as a child of the light? How have you experienced spiritual rebirth in your life? What do you think it means to experience eternal everlasting abundant life in the here and now?

Daily Household Prayer

O merciful God, in compassion for your sinful children you sent your Son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of the world. Grant us grace to feel and to lament our share of the evil that made it necessary for him to suffer and to die for our salvation. Help us by self-denial, prayer, and meditation to prepare our hearts for deeper penitence and a better life. And give us a true longing to be free from sin, through the deliverance won by Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.