

10-12-25 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“The good news of this encounter [between Jesus and the grateful Samaritan] carries with it the promise that through Jesus, God empowers people to step across boundaries, share mercy with outsiders, pay attention to things worthy of praise and move forward into God’s future with assurance that there is more to God’s story than meets the eye. For that, may we always give thanks.”

Audrey West



Luke 17:11-19

Questions for Reflection —

- How have you experienced the healing power of Jesus—physically, emotionally, or spiritually—in your life? In the lives of those around you? In what ways are you presently in need of healing? What would wholeness look like for you in all aspects of your life? How can we as a congregation better help and support one another in the search for healing and wholeness? How can we better enable one another to live well and fully?
- What arbitrary lines of distinction create boundaries separating people in our society from one another? Who occupies the margins in our world today—socially, politically, economically, or spiritually? What would it mean for us as a congregation to step across boundaries and engage with those on the margins? How might we as follower of Christ embrace and act upon God’s vision of justice, wellness, and belonging for all of humanity? In what practical or tangible might you as an individual show compassion towards someone who is being overlooked or excluded in some way?
- What does it look like to live a life of gratitude? How frequently do you pause to give thanks for God’s presence and actions in your life? In what ways or in what aspects of your life are you taking God’s gifts and blessings for granted? What habits or practices might help you live more thankfully? How might we as a congregation cultivate a corporate sense of gratitude? What would it mean for us to allow our gratitude to spill over into the community? How can we turn gratitude for God’s blessings into action for the sake of others?

Daily Household Prayer

Patient Lord, you know how easy it is for us to whine and complain bitterly about all those things in our lives that are difficult. We focus on them as though they were the only things that ever happened to us, forgetting the many blessings that you have given to us and the opportunities you give us to serve you. We feel alienated--you call us beloved. We feel lost--you seek us. We feel broken and battered--your love is a healing balm. Forgive us when we forget those things. Help us to always look to you for our healing and to return thanks to you by praise and serving others in your name. For we offer this prayer of confession of our failures and gratitude for your blessings. Amen.