11-23-25 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

"As citizens of the reign of Christ, we inherit the love of God that invites us into the circle of God's abundant and amazing grace. We are filled with the Holy Spirit, who showers God's gifts on us so that we can share those gifts with one another and experience the oneness of God's holy family."

M. Thomas Thangaraj

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Luke 23:39-43 + John 6:25-35

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it mean for you to allow Christ to be Lord in your life? How do your decisions and actions show that you belong to Christ? What are some of the competing allegiances? What do you need in order to reaffirm and strengthen your commitment to follow Jesus? How do you embody the justice and mercy Christ proclaimed? What will help you live more fully into the forgiveness and restoration offered through Christ?
- As you prepare to observe Thanksgiving for what are you especially grateful in the past year? How can you make Jesus the center of your gratitude? What have been the challenges? Can you see any blessings in those challenges? What would it look like for you to live your thanksgiving on a daily basis? What will help you to do so, especially on tough days?
- How do the values of Christ's kin-dom challenge the world's assumptions about leadership and authority? What do you think it means for our congregation that we are citizens of Christ's reign? How can we discern God's vision and intentions for the world and community around us? How might we demonstrate and share God's abundant and amazing grace with the marginalized? How can we engage in advocacy for and solidarity with people left behind by those in secular power?

Daily Household Prayer

Provider God, we come before You with hearts full of thanks. We remember that every good and perfect gift comes from You, and the greatest gift of all is Jesus Christ, through whom, we have received grace upon grace, forgiveness for our sins, and the promise of eternal life. Lord Jesus, we honor You as the center of our thanksgiving. You are the Bread of Life who satisfies our deepest hunger, the Living Water who quenches our thirst, and the Light who guides our steps. When we gather with church family and friends, may our joy be rooted in Your love, our peace anchored in Your presence, and our hope renewed by Your resurrection. Holy Spirit, fill us with a sense of unity, kindness, and a spirit of generosity. Let our words and actions reflect the heart of Christ, so that our thanksgiving is not just spoken but lived out daily. We offer this prayer in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.