

03-08-26 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“The invitation Jesus extends with the offer of living water is not an invitation to a life of ease. It is an invitation to a life of total transformation—a life in which our connection to the wellspring of life in Christ permeates everything we do and say. It is a life that will serve those around us and will not let us shut them out.”

Serena Rice



John 4:5-42

Questions for Reflection —

- What has renewed and sustained your soul through the various seasons of your life of faith? For what are you presently spiritually thirsty? What are the deepest longings of your soul? What do you think your longing and your thirst reveal about your relationship with God? How will you keep connected to Jesus, the source of living water? What does it look like for you to allow the living water of Jesus to flow in and through you to others? How can we as a congregation share the living water with the spiritually thirsty in the community beyond the walls of the church?
- Who would you identify as the religious, social and/or political outsiders in our society? What cultural prejudices result in the dehumanization of entire groups of people? What has been your personal experience of engaging in direct interactions and establishing relationships with people who are different from you? Are there assumptions that interfere with your ability to consider the perspective of and have empathy for the experience of others? How might we as a congregation be more welcoming and inclusive of “outsiders” in our ministries, living more fully into our mission that “all feel welcomed, loved, accepted, valued, and affirmed for who they are”?
- What do you think it means to worship God in spirit and in truth? When you worship, do you feel fully engaged with heart, soul, and mind? What for you is the balance between emotion/feeling and intellect/knowledge when you worship? How does the experience of Sunday morning worship contribute to your ongoing spiritual growth and transformation? In what ways do you carry your worship of God beyond Sunday morning into all aspects of your life during the week?

Daily Household Prayer

God of grace and mercy, the love You have shown us in Jesus is more than we deserve. Your arms are open wide, like a waiting father for his prodigal children, ready to welcome and restore. We come to You just now thirsting for Your living water. Guide us to the streams of Your wonder and glory, Your justice and righteousness, Your grace and mercy, that we may drink and be satisfied, renewed for our continuing journey with Jesus. This we pray in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.