

08-16-26 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Being attentive to the wonder of life will counterbalance what is not wonderful and will make a world of difference to you. In the best of times and in the worst of times, opening the door of your soul to wonder will help you pray your life, your amazing life, with hope and zeal.”

Curtis Almquist



Isaiah 41:10 + Mark 10:13-16

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it mean for you to receive the kingdom of God like a child? How can you cultivate an attitude of complete dependence on God, trusting in God’s care more fully? What do you need in order to recover a sense of childlike wonder? What are some of the things that tend to awaken your sense of awe and wonder? If you looked at your current life through the eyes of a child, what would amaze you? How will you keep your eyes open to the joy and wonder around you in everyday life?
- What worries or fears occupy the most space in your life presently? In what situations do you find it especially difficult not to be afraid? What does it look like for you to allow yourself to be held in God’s hand in such situations? What does God’s promise “I am with you” mean to you when facing anxious times? What specific concern or fear would you like to surrender to God? What will help you rely on God’s strength?
- In what ways have interactions with and/or observations of young people taught you something about the life of faith? How might you personally encourage a young person in the life of discipleship, noticing their gifts and inviting them to serve? What are some ways we as a congregation can show that we love and value the children and youth in our midst? How can we prioritize the spiritual growth of our young people? How might we also demonstrate love and care for vulnerable children beyond the walls of the church?

Daily Household Prayer

Gracious and loving God, we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You remind us, “Do not fear, for I am with you.” Thank you for the people who encouraged us, opened doors for us, and invited us to serve. Thank You for young people who teach us, challenge us, and remind us of the joy of faith. Help us to recognize Your presence in our own journeys. Give us courage to say yes when You call, strength when the work is difficult, and faith to trust that even our small acts of service can make a lasting difference. Open our hearts to hear Your voice and to see where You are calling us next. In the name of Jesus Christ, who welcomes and blesses the children, we pray. Amen.