11-01-26 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

"Saints were men and women who understood the challenge of living the gospel in the context of their own place and time. They are remembered because they lived it with imagination and devotion. They used what they had been given to live their lives into the freedom of the kingdom."

Robert L'Esperance

Matthew 5:1-12

Questions for Reflection —

- What is your spiritual lineage? Who are your role models (biblical, historical, or contemporary) in living a life of Christian discipleship? Who are the living saints who have blessed and sustained you on your faith journey? Who has shown you unconditional love and served as an example of embodied faith? What might you do to thank or honor those persons?

- What does it mean to be blessed? How does spiritual blessedness differ from societal definitions of happiness and success? When or by what in your life have you known yourself truly blessed? Are there quieter, more subtle blessings in your life that you may be presently overlooking? What helps you recognize the ways in which you continue to be blessed? What spiritual habits will aid your awareness in real time of God's grace, provision, and protection?

- What are some ways that holiness can be manifest in daily life? What does it mean for you to live a holy life? What does it look like to live the gospel in the context of your workplace, neighborhood, and local community? How can you be a source of love, light, hope, and peace in the various everyday contexts of your life? How are you embodying the example of Jesus' teachings and life in a way that carries forward the lineage of everyday saints? By what spiritual legacy would you like to be known and remembered?

Daily Household Prayer

Loving God, we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, saints through the ages who have shone Your light on our way. We are surrounded by saints who have gone before us in death, who have borne Your grace in our lives. We are surrounded by the living saints among us, who bless us, sustain us, teach us and pray for us. Speak Your Word to us and sanctify us, that we may be made holy by Your Spirit of love in us, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Beloved, our Savior, and our hope. Amen.