11-08-26 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

"Our congregation is blessed with people from many countries, cultures, and backgrounds, each bringing unique gifts, talents, experiences, and traditions. These differences are not barriers to our fellowship; they are sources of strength that enrich our church and help us share the love of Christ with our wider community"

Rev. Nizzi Digan

Matthew 5:14-16

Questions for Reflection —

- What are the gifts, talents, experiences, and traditions you bring to the life of our congregation? What do you celebrate about the gifts, talents, experiences, and traditions pf various members of our church family? How can we support and encourage one another in identifying, nurturing, and using our God-given gifts? How can we create more opportunities for each person to share their unique experiences and giftedness? How do we make room for all to contribute and participate?

- In what ways do you think your faith is visible to others? What does it look like for you to "be light" in your daily settings—home, workplace or school, neighborhood, or on social media? What have you been hiding under a bushel? Is there something within you that needs to shine more brightly? Who among those you encounter might be in need of the warmth and illumination of your light?

- What does it mean for us as a congregation to be light for one another? For the community around us? In what ways is the Holy Spirit working in us and through us to make us a shining example of God's love in our divided society? How can our congregation serve as a brighter witness of the resurrection hope of transformation and new life to the neighborhood and community around us? What can we do to ensure that our ministries bring glory to God rather than to ourselves?

Daily Household Prayer

Jesus, You are the Light of the World. Shine Your light in us today. Chase away the darkness of sin, the darkness of fear and doubt and despair. Fill us with the light of Your truth, Your Word. Produce in us the fruit of righteousness – the evidence that Your Holy Spirit lives in us and works in us and works through us. Teach me what is pleasing to You. Make me a shining example of Your amazing grace, redeeming love, and life-changing power. May others be drawn to You through me. Amen.