10-16-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

"Our gratitude for the received canon and the faithful witness of the church, therefore, is not simplistic but involves a lifetime of formation and discernment. Our seeking...is not for knowledge alone but for knowledge that clarifies and sustains our service to God, within the church, and for the increase of justice and mercy locally, nationally, and globally."

- W. Scott Haldeman

Questions for Reflection —

- In what ways has God's call for you changed over the course of your life? How do you presently understand God's call for you in various aspects of your life (family life, relationships, work or school, in the congregation)? Do you have gifts or talents which are presently underutilized? Is there possibly something new to which God is calling you in order to make full use of those gifts and talents? What holds you back?
- What doubts and challenges have you faced as you have sought to live into God's call for you? What has helped to clarify and sustain your call when you have encountered obstacles on your journey? What do you presently need in order to deepen your sense of commitment to God's call for you? What helps you to know and trust that God has equipped you to live your call? What spiritual practices sustain you and help you to move forward? What has been the role of other people in helping to recognize and affirm you in your gifts and call? How can you encourage and affirm someone else in their call?
- To what do you think God is calling our congregation as a whole? What specifically might God want to do through us to increase justice and mercy locally, nationally, and globally? What holds our congregation back from being what we are called to be? How can we fully utilize the gifts of individuals and groups among us so that we can work from our strengths to fulfill God's kin-dom mission in this time and place? What can we do to encourage those who might be uncertain about their role and call in the life of our church? How can we be more intentional about helping people of all ages respond to God's many calls on their lives?

Daily Household Prayer

Loving God, we come here today with open hearts, minds, and spirits. We come to receive your wisdom and guidance. Fill our minds. We come to worship together and grow closer as a community. Fill our hearts. We come to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Fill our spirits. Strengthen us to live fully for your kin-dom purposes. Help us to live out your call in our lives. Fill us with your grace. In the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.