

01-01-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“On Epiphany, we embrace the light that is the Christ, but not as a denial of the God who dwells in the dark. Instead, it could be an awareness of the journey that continues, sometimes in certainty and sometimes in doubt, sometimes in clarity and sometimes in confusion...We follow Christ when we can see him clearly and when we have lost sight of him. Still we follow.”

- Derek Weber



Matthew 2:1-12

Questions for Reflection —

- What in the past year for you has been the most life-affirming? The most life-draining? What have been the significant moments of your spiritual journey? How has God been at work in your life during the past year? Where/how in the past year have you seen God at work in the life of our congregation? What gives you hope in the New Year?

- What call from God are you sensing in the New Year? What changes or transitions do you anticipate? What are the new possibilities, opportunities, or invitations before you/our congregation in the New Year? What are your prayers in the New Year—for yourself, our congregation, the world and its peoples? What scripture passage(s) might serve as a guide for you as your journey continues in the coming year?

- What does it mean for you to follow Christ? What do you need in order to walk more fully in the Epiphany light of Christ? What might you need to take on? To give up? What spiritual practices will help you to remain fully awake and fully alive to life in Christ? Where might your journey to seek Jesus and his Way take you? With what companions do you journey?

Daily Household Prayer

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses. Because you are a God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future. Because you are a God of love, we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past. Because you are the God of our faith, we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise, we come into your presence with gladness and a joyful noise, and we serve and bless you. Amen.