

02-05-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“When we love we want to serve. We long to be given some task that will contribute to the good purposes of the one we love...We willingly set aside our own desires and preferences, we lay down our lives, for the sake of those whom we love.”

- David Vryhof



Isaiah 42:1-9 † Mark 1:29-39

Questions for Reflection —

- How readily do you think of yourself as a servant of God? What are the practical implications of that identity? What challenges you about the notion of servanthood? Are you willing to relinquish your personal desires in order to align with God's purposes? What of your own preferences and preconceived ideas might you need to set aside in order to more fully serve God? What will enable you to do so?

- What does justice look like in the local community? In our country? In our world? In what ways is justice lacking in those places? In a society that cries out for justice in so many ways, about what injustice are you especially and most passionately concerned? What might it look like for you to be an implement of God's justice to address that particular issue? How do we as a congregation take up and carry on Jesus' mission to establish God's justice here and now?

- What helps you to re-charge when you feel overwhelmed by responsibilities? What spiritual practices calm your anxieties and worries? What restores your energy and enthusiasm for the service to which God calls you? What does “quality time” with God look like for you? Where and how are you best able to stay in touch with God, to be aware of God's presence, and to listen for God's voice, to rest in God?

Daily Household Prayer

Gracious God, You call us to follow Christ and spread the good news of Your love for all people. Help us to become all things to all people that we might reach many with Your good news. Amen.