

## 04-16-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“There is a healthy interplay in the life of faith between our need to feel settled in our beliefs and the desire to ask more questions...the kind of faith many of us have received is an interplay between belief and doubt, faith and questions.”

- Mark Brown

“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves...Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”

- Rainer Maria Rilke



1 Peter 1:3-9 † John 20:19-31

### Questions for Reflection —

- In what ways have you experienced the risen Christ? How is Jesus presently inviting you to personal encounter? What does it mean for you to allow Jesus to enter your heart? What locked doors keep Jesus from having full access to all aspects of your life? What will help you reclaim deeper relationship with Christ? What do you need in order to live more fully into love for and trust in Jesus?
  
- What is the interplay between belief and doubt in your faith life? What fears have tested your faith? In the face of fear and doubt, what do you need in order to revive the living hope offered by faith in the resurrected Christ? What role does Christian community play in strengthening your life of faith? How can we as a congregation better support one another through our individual doubts and struggles?
  
- What questions do you have about God’s purposes for you? What is unsolved in your heart about your call to discipleship? What would it look like for you to live your questions? What do you need in order to renew your sense of purpose as a disciple of Jesus Christ? What will give you courage and strength to take risks and accept uncertainties in the next steps towards following God’s call for you?

### Daily Household Prayer

God of the risen Jesus, we praise you for the great love that you have shown to redeem us by sending your Son Jesus. Help us today to embrace the New Life that the resurrected Christ is giving us. A Life beyond our doubts, faith over fear, courage over confusion, belief over disbelief, and trust to follow your guidance. As we worship today, help us to feel the presence of resurrected Jesus in our midst, reminding us of your love and our purpose. Amen.