

10-20-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“One of the true celebrations of what it means to be United Methodist is to understand that the faith we proclaim must find a way to be lived out — in mission, advocacy, and humble service.”

Bishop Thomas Bickerton



Mark 10:35-45

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it mean to live a life of devotion to Christ’s work and mission? What would it look like for you personally to follow Jesus in the way of servanthood? To what quiet, perhaps unrecognized or unrewarded service might God presently be calling you? What ways of the world distract you from that calling? What will help you cultivate a mindset of servanthood?

- Where have you seen/do you see examples of servant leadership in our congregation? What examples of servant leadership have you encountered in your workplace? What would it look like for a public figure to be a leader who serves God and others rather than seeking power and prestige? What are the barriers in our society that make it difficult to exemplify that type of leadership in the public sphere? What might be done to encourage such forms of leadership?

- How do you outwardly express your faith? In what tangible ways does your faith translate into meaningful action? With what do you wrestle in balancing your interior personal growth and outward expressions of discipleship? What role does being part of Christian community play in helping you find balance? How can we as a congregation more actively engage in mission and advocacy for justice and peace? How can we serve so that the world may be healed?

Daily Household Prayer

Good and gracious God, we gather in your name to lay aside our burdens, to listen to your Word, and to hear the voice of your Spirit. Open our hearts to your presence that we may surrender ourselves to your will and learn your way of being in the world. Teach us to resist the way of the world when it demands that we use your gifts for purposes that are not yours. Humble our hearts that we may follow instead the path of Jesus who, having all power and authority, chose the way of servanthood. Grant us the grace and humility to follow as he leads. In the name of Jesus our servant-leader, we pray. Amen.