

11-10-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“...loving God and loving neighbor is not about cultivating attitudes or about generating feelings or emotions. When we are given this commandment to love God and love neighbor, it is all about how we act, about what we do, how we show love in day-by-day encounters and in casual points of contact as well as moments of mission and ministry.”

Derek Weber



Mark 12:28-34

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it look like for you to love God with each of these features: heart, soul, mind, strength? Which of the four is the most natural way for you to demonstrate your love for God? Which is a struggle for you? What change(s) would you need to make in order to love God with a balance among all four? What is the challenge in loving yourself and recognizing your own belovedness? What would it mean for you to have compassion for your own human frailties?

- How do you show love for others in routine daily encounters? How can you cultivate meaningful interaction with people whose lives intersect, even casually, with yours? What does it look like for you to show active concern for the needs of those with whom you interact? How can you better demonstrate God’s love for all those whom God places in your path? What will help you shine the light of God’s love to those around you?

- Who are the neighbors of our church? Who are our neighbors in the larger community? What are the challenges in loving those neighbors? How can we as a congregation pursue both the spiritual health and physical well-being of our neighbors? How can our interactions with our neighbors be shaped by love care? What would it look like for us to reach out to those with whom we disagree, to enter into relationship with those of different backgrounds and experiences, and to show hospitality to those who do not share our beliefs?

Daily Household Prayer

Gracious God, your love for us is an invitation into a new way of life. We give you thanks for those who have faithfully followed you and demonstrated the way of Christ’s holy love. Empower us to be those who brightly shine the light of God’s love through our words and silence, our actions, and our stillness. Amen.