

## 12-01-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Advent is not something we endure; it is something we become, something that we are. We are people who live in anticipation, who live in hope. It is the essence of our being... Our life is a life of fullness and joy, but it is also a preparation for even more fullness.”

*Derek Weber*



Luke 3:2b-6

### Questions for Reflection —

- What does Advent mean to you? What are some of the ways you prepare spiritually for Christmas? How do you ready your heart for the coming of the Christ child? What helps you make room for God amidst the busyness of the season? What do you need in order to attain balance between seasonal tasks and spiritual preparations? How will you wait, watch, and listen for God during Advent this year?
  
- What have been some of the rough places along the path of your spiritual journey? How did you cope with them? What pitfalls and obstacles do you currently face that prevent your living into the fullness of life in Christ? What do you need in order to skirt the pitfalls and overcome the obstacles? How will you continue your journey towards the holiness and perfection to which God calls each of us?
  
- Where/how do you see God already at work in the world around you? What more do you imagine for God’s love, justice, and mercy to be fully manifest here on earth? What do you dream of for yourself, for our congregation, for our world? What fears and anxieties about present realities interfere with your ability to maintain hope for those dreams to become the new realities? What would it look like for you to live as a witness to what has the potential to be?

### Daily Household Prayer

God of our salvation, you straighten the winding ways of our hearts and smooth the paths made rough by sin. Keep our conduct blameless, keep our hearts watchful in holiness, and bring to perfection the good you have begun in us. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.