

12-29-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Praise of God is essential to our living as God created us to live. Praise... like breath, is a life-giving force of our nature by which we remain in ongoing communion with God beyond our consciousness or control. Like breath, praise enters our spirits as we take in the wonders that God places around us, and praise leaves our hearts as we respond to the mysteries and beauty of God.”

Pamela C. Hawkins



Psalm 148 + Colossians 3:12-17

Questions for Reflection —

- How do you prepare your heart and mind for worship before you come to church? What influence does the music in worship have on your faith journey? Specifically in the Christmas season what carol(s) best captures for you the meaning and message of God’s gift of Jesus? How will you continue to carry that message in your heart not only during the Twelve Days of Christmas but throughout the year?

- In what ways have you experienced the mysteries and beauty of God this Christmas? Does praise for those things come naturally to you? Why or why not? What form does your praise of God generally take? What would it look like for you to praise God with your whole being? What would it mean for you to make praising God a way of life?

- As a new calendar year begins, what will nourish your spirit and nurture your hope? What do you need in order to let God be your guide throughout the coming year? With what spiritual qualities do you wish to clothe yourself daily this year? In the upcoming year what might it look for you to do everything in the name of Jesus? How will you let the word of Christ dwell in your heart?

Daily Household Prayer

All powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Teach us to proclaim the birth of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.