

01-26-25 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“As he prepares to begin his public ministry, Jesus reminds his listeners and us that the start of anything new is always a great opportunity to pause, revisit our mission, and reclaim ‘who we are’ and ‘whose we are.’”

Marilyn Pagán-Banks



Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 + Luke 4:14-21

Questions for Reflection —

- How do you respond as an individual to the scriptural call to love, serve, and liberate? How would you formulate your own personal mission statement? What would it look like for you to offer your full and authentic self in faithful service to God and all God's people? How can you personally be a living testimony of God's grace, power, and love?

- What do you see as the role of the church in caring for and ensuring justice for the vulnerable in our society? How might we as a congregation embody Jesus' mission of bringing good news, release, and recovery to those in need? To what particular people or situations might we offer hope and/or assistance? What would it mean for us to revisit our mission and reclaim 'who we are' and 'whose we are.'?

- What role do worship and the study of scripture play in your life? What other spiritual habits or religious customs nourish and sustain your walk of faith? What practices help you find joy, strength, and hope as you follow God's call for your life? How have you known and experienced the guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit? What helps create the space that allows you to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Daily Household Prayer

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.