

MID-WEEK REFLECTION 5

“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we value sharing God’s love”

GETTING STARTED:

If you could live this past week over what would you change?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Isaiah 43:19 *For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.*

Isaiah 54:2 *Widen the space of your tent, stretch out your hangings freely, lengthen you ropes, make your tent pegs firm, for you will burst out to the right and to the left.*

Luke 4:18 *The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.*

Revelation 21:5-7 *He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write these words down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”*

He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his/her God and he/she will be my son/daughter.

Question: What does it mean to value something? What does it mean to value sharing God’s love?

Question: People are eager to celebrate good news. How would you summarize the good news in the above Bible passages?

Question: Do non-Christians associate Christianity with good news? Why or why not?

Question: How can we help people in our community know Christ and the meaning of Christianity better?

I John 3:16-18 *This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers/sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees*

his brother in need but has no pity on him how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

At the center of our Christian faith is the belief that God has sacrificed His one and only Son to die for us so that we may have eternal life. We celebrate an extraordinary love and good news. Surely a God who loves us is not against us but for us. As the apostle Paul wrote, nothing can separate us from God's love or take away His blessing.

Question: Real love always looks out for the needs and interests of others. Where or for whom do you find joy in sacrificing your time, talent and treasures? Why it is important to you?

Question: Where is God calling us to serve together as a congregation?

APPLICATION:

We glorify God when we take pleasure in using our lives for God's purposes and working at whatever we are doing as a service to God and not for ourselves. In **Colossians 3:17** it says, "*Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.*" Whether you are a student in class, cooking a meal at home, taking care of a child, or the chairperson of a board, our joy is from serving the Lord.

CHALLENGE:

Think about your life and the people who have helped you along the way. Choose one person who has helped you and let that person know how much you appreciate them and the sacrifices they made for you.