

Wednesday

Read: **Matthew 25:37-40** *Giving*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What does it mean to be a member of Christ's family?*
2. *Reflect on a time when you were able to offer help or kindness to someone else. Give thanks for that opportunity.*

Prayer Focus Open our eyes to see those we've decided are the least among us, those we pass by, those we dismiss. Soften our hearts and free our hands to know once again that we are all one in you. Help us live in that truth.

Thursday

Read: **Matthew 25:41-44** *Goats*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What tends to stand in the way of your reaching out to others?*
2. *What can you do to really see what is needed in your world today? How can you respond?*

Prayer Focus Give us grace to see we have nothing except what comes from you in love. We thank you humbly for your true mercy and justice and for the new life you offer.

Friday

Read: **Matthew 25:45-46** *Life in giving to others*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How do you envision eternal life?*
2. *Is there one thing you can do this week to offer life to someone else?*

Prayer Focus As we look toward the season of Advent, we renew our commitment to try your way rather than ours, to choose what you'd choose, and to recognize you as the eternal, abundant life we already have as your people. We offer ourselves as you come to us again, now and always.

The Least of These

Pastor's message: **Matthew 25:31-46**

Message Notes:



Small Group Format

Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Advent is coming soon. How do you want to share in that special season this year?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Matthew 25:31-46**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

THE LEAST OF THESE

November 26, 2023

Monday

Read: Matthew 25:31-33 *Sheep and goats*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What do you see as Jesus' glory?*
2. *Why does Jesus separate people into two groups?*

Prayer Focus We know we've created systems where we separate and divide people, even when we have no right or reason to judge, even where we do more harm than good. We ask forgiveness and healing, Christ our teacher.

Tuesday

Read: Matthew 25:34-36 *Sheep*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Reflect on a time when you've received a special kindness. Give thanks for that blessing, then consider how you can pass it on.*
2. *What do you think of when you think of inheriting the kingdom? How do you think that will come about?*

Prayer Focus Jesus, you've shown us that when we see others, we see your face, and should offer help and healing. If we follow your way, maybe others see your face when they look at us and our world will move toward wholeness and hope.