

## Wednesday

Read: Luke 11:8 *The power of persistence.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How do you feel about asking God again and again for the same things?*
2. *Does it sometimes feel as if God doesn't answer your prayers? How does that make you feel about God?*

**Prayer Focus:** God, we sometimes feel you should be giving to us on our terms and on our schedule. We'd like you to do as we wish, not as you will. Help us be patient, to ask and to watch for your answers to our prayers.

## Thursday

Read: Luke 11:9-10 *Ask, search, knock.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Do these promises seem true in your experience?*
2. *Reflect on your own prayer time. Do you hesitate to ask God for what you want or need? Why or why not?*

**Prayer Focus:** Holy One, we hold back from asking sometimes because we don't trust in your promises, or because we don't want to be disappointed when we don't get what we want. Make us ready to ask, knock, search, and receive, in hope and in faith that you will provide.

## Friday

Read: Luke 11:11-13 *God's gifts to God's children.*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What is God's promise in this passage? Will we always get exactly what we ask from God?*
2. *How do you see your time in prayer changing after reading this passage from Luke? How might it change how you live your life?*

**Prayer Focus:** Holy Spirit, enter our prayer times and help us to pray even if we may not always know what to pray for or what to expect. Make us bold in asking, and confident in your response. Re-create us as people who live again, in and through prayer.

## Cultivating Compassionate Action

Luke 11:1-13 (NRSV)

**Pastor's message:** PULSE - Pay attention; Understand empathically; Love with connection; Sense the sacredness; Embody new life.

**Message Notes:**

## Small Group Format

### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *When did you first learn the Lord's Prayer? Did you learn to say it in the same way we say it in worship on Sundays?*

Opening Prayer: *Say the Lord's Prayer together.*

Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

- Have someone read: **Luke 11:1-13**
- 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)



## August 4, 2019

### Compassion

### Monday

Read: **Luke 11:1-4** *Jesus gives the disciples a prayer.*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why did the disciples ask Jesus how to pray?*
2. *Reflect on each verse. Which of these prayers are most important in your life today?*

### Prayer Focus:

Dear Jesus, you never left us wondering what to do or what was important. Thank you for the gift of a deeper life in prayer, and for all those who have kept this prayer, passing it on from generation to generation. Help us keep it alive.

### Tuesday

Read: **Luke 11:5-7** *The friend at midnight.*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Is it difficult for you to ask someone else for help?*
2. *If a friend says no to you, how do you feel?*

### Prayer Focus:

Jesus, our friend, we want so much and yet we struggle with how to ask, and when to ask, and more. You know we have needs and you never dismiss them, only guide us to the better way in love.