

Order of Worship
January 31st 2021 ~ 4th Sunday after Epiphany

This Week's Study Guide

This simple guide will help you follow along with today's sermon, and enhance your reflections and scripture reading through the week.

Read:

Revelation 21:3-5 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Reflect:

- Recall a time in your life (even a simple, silly example) of when good won the day. What happened to turn the tables? Can you recognize the spirit of Jesus in your everyday life working to overcome hard things?
- We often think that God should "make all things new" right now. How can we gain perspective on our need for immediate gratification (i.e., *no more pain please!*) vs. the infinite mind and love of God?
- In uncertain and difficult times why is it hard to trust that good will prevail? What gets in your way of trusting that God is still in control? What is one practice you can commit to that will help you stay focused this week on seeing Jesus in our midst?
- Naming the demons of power, greed, jealousy, etc., is an important step in casting them out of lives for good. Spend some time in prayer this week asking God to reveal them anew to you, and give you the courage to confront what is needed. Stay strong in your knowledge that God is with you always.

Pray:

Jesus has come to heal our spirits and our souls.

The demons of arrogance, indifference and apathy are being cast out.

New life is offered to you in Jesus Christ.

Rejoice! Be Glad!

For God's love is poured out to us this day.

Amen.