

Monday: Genesis 1:1 - 2:4. The opening chapters of the Bible insist that in the beginning was goodness. Other narrative say that evil was first, but our tradition insists that the universe was created in goodness. All that is, is good. Evil is a latecomer. What would it mean to believe this in a culture where we seem surrounded on all sides by violence, corruption and greed? If I really believed that the world's default setting is not evil, but radical good, how would that change things? Would it mean for us to incarnate goodness as our heritage?

Tuesday: Psalm 8. Read this Psalm through 4 or 5 times, aloud if possible. Pause when a word or phrase seems to “jump out” or “shimmer” as you read. Why does that word or phrase seem to stand out? What is God saying to you in this moment? What action is God calling you to?

Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 13: 11 - 13. These are the closing words of Paul in his writing to the church in Corinth. The last verse is often used as a benediction, sending the worshipers out into the world. It is also Paul taking one final shot and begging this fractious congregation to embody the way of Jesus in the way they treat each other. Seems wonderful to imagine being able to greet each other with a “holy kiss,” doesn't it? As we get closer to being able to worship together again, what might that holy kiss look like? and how can you embody peace and reconciliation today?

Thursday: John 7: 37 - 39. On Sunday, Rick challenged us to consider the ways in which we interfere with the flow of “living water” - the part we play in upholding unjust systems. It is difficult, as those who have benefited from this system for such a long time, to admit our role and privilege. How have you been processing the protests happening across the country, around the world? What role does the church need to play? What does the world need to see and hear from the church? How is God calling you to respond?

Friday: Activity - Explore racism and white privilege. Consider watching the video featuring Robin DiAngelo and spend time discussing the questions provided. You can find it here: <https://www.gcorr.org/video/vital-conversations-racism-dr-robin-diangelo/>

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