

## WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK: DISCERNMENT

**OPENING** You have called us in righteousness.  
**Let us respond with justice.**

**PRAYER** God of steadfast love, light of the blind and liberator of the oppressed, we see your holy purpose in the tender compassion of Jesus, who calls us into new and living friendship with you: May we who take shelter in the shadow of your wings be filled with the grace of his tender caring; may we who stumble in selfish darkness see your glory in the light of his self-giving; we ask this through him whose suffering is victorious, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE** Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. - *Isaiah 42:1-4*

**MEDITATION** We must get ready then. Our journey requires a rejuvenated faith. We must set high standards. We must rely on the gospel to guide us. It will help us to follow Christ and grow better acquainted with him so we are prepared to live with Jesus in his heavenly kingdom. - *from The Rule of St. Benedict*

*Where does our faith need rejuvenation today? How will we let the gospel guide us?*

**AFFIRMATION** **As children of God, we affirm:**

**That God, who is Love, created all and called it good,  
that God is present with all of creation, and that,  
in darkness and in light, God is faithful;  
therefore we, too, seek to be faithful.**

**That Jesus came to show us Love with a human face,  
that he taught justice and reconciliation and  
suffered on our behalf,  
and that through his faithful example, he embodies hope;  
therefore we, too, seek to be people of justice,  
reconciliation, and hope.**

**That the Holy Spirit guides and accompanies us,  
that this same Spirit offers wisdom and discernment,  
and that, when we are open, the Spirit can always find a way;  
therefore, we seek to be people filled with God's Spirit:  
discerning, loving and transforming our world. Amen.**

**PRAYERS** Jesus, faithful servant of God,  
sometimes it is difficult for us to know how to be faithful:  
**Help us discern your will and follow you with gladness.**

Jesus, faithful servant of God,  
in this most holy of weeks, we see the brokenness of our world:  
**Help us be people who faithfully bring forth justice.**

Jesus, faithful servant of God,  
we know the world longs for healing:  
**Help us be people of hope and bearers of light.**

Jesus, faithful servant of God,  
we want to be the people you long for us to be:  
**Help us walk in your way of love.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**PRAYER** Loving God, as we seek to know and follow you more faithfully, we pray you will open and fill our hearts with the love and knowledge of your Son, Jesus. May we see ever more clearly what it is you call us to, and may we respond with lives of joy and justice. Amen.

**GOING OUT** You have called us in righteousness.  
**Let us respond with justice.**