

## Community Circle Discussion Questions

### ***Check in Questions (to be used each meeting)***

Where did you see God at work this week or over the past weeks?

What challenges have you encountered?

Where have you experienced joy?

How have you been aware of God's grace in your life?

What are you concerned about? (Today or upcoming)

### ***Lectionary Reading (For week of November 28th, 2021)***

#### **Luke 21:25-36**

Participants read the scripture:

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

### ***Discussion Questions***

Jesus seems to be warning his disciples about not being aware of what's happening around them. How can we be more aware of God's presence in our life?

Focusing on the present can be difficult. Why do you think that is?

Jesus tells the disciples that there will be signs that will show the disciples how God is beginning to work in the world. Do we ever see evidence of God's work? What might that look like?

### ***Going Deeper (Optional)***

Although it may be difficult to identify with the apocalyptic nature of this passage, we all know the feeling of anxiously waiting for something. Are you waiting for something to happen now? How can we follow Jesus's direction of being prepared for what is to come without it consuming us?