



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023

Day 3, Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly

Scripture

Micah 6:6-8, And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Mark 10:17-31, Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?

Meditation

We – not me. The prophet warns the people what faithfulness to God's covenant means: "...and what does the Lord require of you? To do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?" In Biblical Hebrew justice and kindness (mercy) are not different or opposite from each other. They are in fact bonded together in a single word, *mishpat*. God has shown us what is good, asking us to do justice by loving kindness and walking humbly with God. Walking humbly with God means walking alongside others and therefore it is not just about the individual: my walk, my love.

The love that God invites us into is always a love which gathers us into communion: we – not me. This insight makes all the difference in how we "do justice". As Christians we act justly to manifest something of God's kingdom in the world, and therefore to invite others into this place of God's loving kindness. Within God's kingdom we are all loved equally as God's children, and as God's Church we are called to love one another as brothers and sisters and to invite others into that love.

To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God, calls Christians to act together in bearing a united witness to God's kingdom within our communities: we – not me.

Prayer

Gracious and loving God, Expand our vision that we might see the mission we share with all of our Christian brothers and sisters, to show forth the justice and loving kindness of your kingdom. Help us to welcome our neighbors as your Son welcomed us. Help us to be more generous as we witness to the grace that you freely give us. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.