

# VISION 2020



## TODAY'S THEME

### DAY 5 | To see ANEW as God sees.

Today we explore God's promise to make all things new. In the book of Revelation, God promises to transform the world, suffering, pain and struggle into something new. Because God makes things new, we have the courage and power to see things in a new way, too!

## WORD

### REVELATION 21: 1-6a

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,*

*"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."*

*And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.*

**Remember! You can read this printed scripture from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. Or you can watch the Vision Story video on the website.**

## WONDER

The Bible is the story of God at work in the world; it is full of truth, love and life. God invites us to enter the story with a sense of wonder. This wonder is marked by curiosity, rather than a need to know the right answer. So let's wonder together!

### Wonder Questions after the Story

- I wonder what the story made you think about?
- I wonder where you think God's home might be?
- I wonder what it looks like when God makes something new?
- I wonder what new thing God is making in your life?
- I wonder what was your favorite story this week?

## FAITH PRACTICE

Faith practices are actions and activities that help us grow in our faith and to feel God's presence in our lives.

**Yoga** | Restorative (or re-NEWing) yoga is a wonderful way to breathe new life into your body and your soul.

With yoga, you move your body into a variety of poses in order to become more fit or flexible, to improve your breathing, and to relax your mind. What began as a Hindu practice, has been adopted by many different faith traditions as a way to center and connect with God. You can try yoga as you follow along with Pastor Ariel's video.

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## FAMILY DEVOTION

Gather around the dinner table for a family devotion. Each day's family devotion has the same flow, start the meal with a camp grace, then make space to wonder together with the questions provided, read scripture and close in prayer. If you're feeling bold, you can continue with the Digging Deeper section to learn more about the scripture.

### CAMP GRACE

Today's Camp Grace is SUPERMAN! Remember you can use the one we suggest, or pick another from the Camp Grace list on our website. And don't forget about the sample videos led by Lutherhill's alumni summer staff.

**SUPERMAN** | Thank you God, for giving us food; Thank you God, for giving us food

For the food that we eat; For the friends that we meet; Thank you God, for giving us food; Amen, amen

### WONDER TOGETHER

- I wonder if you ever get hand-me-downs or used items? I wonder if you like it?
- I wonder how it feels to get something brand new you've been waiting for, looking for?
- I wonder if you ever get bored? What do you find boring? The same old thing?
- I wonder if you like trying new things?

### WORD | REVELATION 21:1-6a

Read from your family Bible, from the printed version on this handout, or watch the Vision Story together.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, you are the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. We trust that you have the great power and the great love to make all things new. Help us to see with new eyes. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

## DIGGING DEEPER

Revelation is the last book of the Bible. We started Day 1 with the first book of the Bible, Genesis. Today we've come to the end, Revelation. It is the 27<sup>th</sup> book of the New Testament. Day 1, we started with God's creation of the world. And today, we hear the story of God's re-creation of the world.

Revelation means 'seeing something in a new way'. Imagine the people of the early church, a brand-new community trying to remember and live by Jesus' teachings. They only had a brief time with Jesus and he did not exactly fulfill their expectations of triumph and salvation. The early Christians lived in a world marked by suffering and cruel acts. The things they saw everyday did not look very holy. And Jesus was gone.

Revelation tells us that God came to dwell among the people with Jesus – and now God continues to dwell among the people. We may need to look a little harder to see God, but God is always there.

Revelation talks about the end time, when Jesus will return. Sometimes this is called the final coming or apocalypse (the final unveiling of God's will for the world). While this can be captivating, if we focus solely on a distant date and time of revelation, we miss out on God revealed in the world every day. We can read this text as an invitation to see ourselves, others and the world in a new way.