

## **Zechariah 1 "What is needed is a Vision of the Lord"**

### **Read Zechariah 1:1-17**

1. When fear and uncertainty swirls around us there is the very real tendency to turn inward and try and get comfort and security around us. The danger is that by our silence and disengagement injustice is able to take root. Do you see such a pattern in the midst of the fear and uncertainty that are present in our world at this time?
2. (vs. 1-6) In the face of this tendency in Israel at the time Zechariah gives first a word of caution. Do not return to the patterns of your ancestors, how they by their evil and injustice provoked the Lord's anger. What attributes of God does Zechariah lean into to motivate this call to repentance?
3. How do you personally hear this call to repentance in light of your discussion of question 1?
4. Zechariah's vision pictures the Lord God sending out riders to patrol his kingdom returning with the perspective – all the earth is at rest. How does this promise of what will be relate to the rebuilding of the temple?

### **Read Luke 22:39-46 and Acts 1:6-11**

5. The early listeners would recognize the glen of myrtle trees as the Kidron valley which sits between the city of Jerusalem and the mount of olives. What connections can be drawn between this vision and the work and promises of Jesus?
6. At Pentecost the Spirit descends upon the first followers of Jesus that they would be the residence of the living God, the new temple, called to be the embodiment of the hope that Jesus is coming to make everything new. What does this invite from us as a church in the midst of the fear and uncertainty that swirl around us?