

## Dec 8/24 - Small Group Questions

### Revelation 4:1-6a; 5:1-10; 20:11-15 "Judgment is Good News!"

1. What do you sense people in both the world and church understand by the judgment of God?

**Read Luke 3:1-18** This passage is always read on the second Sunday of Advent to help us reflect on the Christian conviction (that we affirm each week in the creed), that Jesus "is coming again to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end."

2. What do we learn about Jesus' coming in judgement? How do we make sense of Luke's affirmation that this is good news?

**Read Revelation 4:1-6a; 5:1-10; 20:11-15** Jesus' return in judgement finds its culmination in the vision of chapter 20, but this is the last of 7 visions reflecting on this throne. Each vision clarifies the nature of judgement, none more than the first.

3. (Revelation 4:1-6a) What do the various images tell us about the nature and goal of God's judgement?
4. (Revelation 5:1-10) The scroll is God's plan to rectify all that has gone wrong with his good creation, a plan that of necessity involves judging wrong, removing evil, destroying the tyrannical forces that have humanity in their grasp. Why do you think it is that John weeps that no one is found worthy to open it? Do you join him in sorrow? Why or why not?
5. Why is it that Jesus is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?
6. (Revelation 20:11-15) On what basis is humanity judged? What is our hope on that day?
7. "He has made us a kingdom of priests". We are invited even now through the open door into God's reality to take our place in the heavenly worship that is happening all around us. Heavenly worship has a dynamic where, as worship is brought to the one upon throne new creation flows. How does this dynamic of heavenly worship help us to understand how we live is a Kingdom of priests here and now?