

**Monday, May 22, 2023**

**INVITATION:**

The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. (Ps 145:8)

*Pause and slow your breath before entering into prayer.*

**BIBLE SONG: Psalm 51:1-6**

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.  
Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.  
Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.  
Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

**PRAYER:**

Lord Jesus Christ, when I face the power of greed, have mercy on me.

When I worry about survival and grasp for false security, remind me of the boy who shared his meal so you could feed the multitude.

When I am tempted to store up treasure in savings accounts, help me to make eternal investments in your kingdom and trust your economy of love.

When I wonder who will care for me when I am old, give me elders to love and young friends to mentor in your way of abundant life.

Deliver me from greed, that I might know the love that casts out fear and receive the gift of your provision through another's hand.<sup>1</sup>

*Pause and listen for what God is saying to you.*

**INTERCESSION:**

- \*for our missionaries, the Vander Haaks, who are retiring next month
- \*that those who use the Refuge would know their worth and value
- \*for the humanitarian crisis taking place in Ethiopia

*What else do you want to talk to God about?  
How is God inviting you to respond?*

**BLESSING:**

God bless your journey;  
the people and places,  
talking and listening,  
giving and receiving,  
fellowship, loneliness,  
sorrow and thankfulness.  
May all you embrace  
build and strengthen you  
on your daily walk with God. Amen.<sup>5</sup>