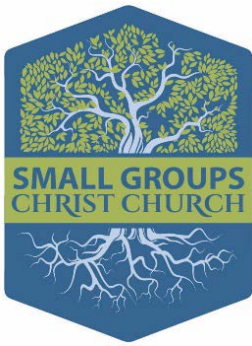


## CHRIST CHURCH SMALL GROUPS

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany – The Week beginning February 23, 2025



### Read Luke 6:27-38:

Jesus said, “I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

### Background:

A compassionate heart reaches out to many; the Gospel today reaches beyond our own circle to reach many others. This will be the constant call of Jesus. When he wants to say what His father is like he says, “Be compassionate like him.” Compassion is when we can walk in another’s shoes and try to see, hear, and feel the world of another, particularly in bad times.

### Talking Points:

- Why does Jesus tell people to love their enemies? How do we put his teachings into practice?
- Who are the people in your life that you need to love more?
- Why do we judge others? How do we change our judgmental nature?
- Why is forgiveness important? How do we forgive when we don’t want to?

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.