

## Memorize & Ponder

Nov 20, 2016 – Christ the King Sunday

Memorize & Ponder Text – Luke 23:42-43  
(Full Readings – Ps 46 & Luke 23:33-43)  
Week of Nov 13-20, 2016

## Being with Jesus in Paradise

### Luke 23:42-43(NRSV)

*Then he said, “Jesus, remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.”  
He replied, “Truly I tell you,  
today you will be with me in Paradise.”*

*Throughout the Christian year of 2016, until Advent, we will be focusing on the theme of ‘Following Jesus in a Fearful and Divided World.’ Our Scripture readings and Memorize & Ponder texts will be taken from the Gospels of Luke and John. We invite you to **listen** for what the Spirit is saying in the text, then **question** how those insights might change the ways you see things and act in the world. Share your thoughts during the week on the meaning the Spirit creates for you in this text by posting a comment on our website – [www.brentwoodpc.ca](http://www.brentwoodpc.ca).*

## Ponderings for the Friends of Jesus

*Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us provoke one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together ... (Hebrews 10:23-25a)*

### A Word for the Friends of Jesus to Ponder = Paradise

This is an intriguing conversation. Two things strike me as I being to consider the meaning of this story for our lives today. How, in other words, might it be used by the Holy Spirit to nourish our souls to flourish in our circles of influence this week?

First, it is a conversation with another outsider. We’ve seen that theme over and over again in Luke. Jesus came to be with the outsiders, those seen as unworthy and undesirable by the religious and political power brokers of his society.

Second, there is a promise of salvation. Jesus’ presence awakened a desire to be with him and turned, through grace alone, that desire into a reality. Paradise, as this congregation knows so well, is simply being fully conscious that we are with Jesus. It is being enfolded and encouraged by his loving energy. It is being empowered by his grace to be blessings in every one of our circles of influence now and for evermore.

### Gratitude for Grace Noticed this Week

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