## **Table Group**

Week of July 20, 2020

## Isaiah 43:16-21 (NIV)

- This is what the Lord says he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters,
- <sup>17</sup> who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:
- <sup>18</sup> "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.
- <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

<sup>20</sup> The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls,

because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen,

the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" The Israelites were in captivity in Babylon when the words came to them through the prophet Isaiah. Torn away from their temple, from their community, from their way of life – these words were offered up to give them hope and to renew their faith in the presence of God.

Do they offer you hope? Do you perceive where God is working and creating new things within you? In the midst of our fears and in the midst of unknowns, how do you see God working in your life and in the world this week?

Ponder these questions and share as you are comfortable:

How is your relationship with God today?

What spiritual disciplines are you struggling with this week? What life-giving habits are helping to grow your connection with God?

Is there anything in your life (fear, anger, forgiveness, property, possessions, etc.) that is getting in the way of your relationship with God and others?

Is there anything you are trying to keep hidden?

How might the Holy Spirit be working for renewal in your life?