



## CHECK-IN

- Check in. How is everyone doing? How was your snow day?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

## SCRIPTURE:

### John 3:16-17

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

### Matthew 22:37-40

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

### 1 John 4:8-9

“Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.”

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What stands out to you in John 3:16? What do they reveal about God’s motivation and intention?
- Why do you think it’s so easy for faith communities to focus on rules and traditions instead of love? How can we avoid falling into that trap?
- What does it mean for you personally to see Jesus not just as a teacher of love but as love itself?

## DID YOU KNOW?

Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, wrote over 6,000 hymns during his lifetime, many of which remain beloved today. Although Charles was known primarily as the hymn composer of Methodism, he was also a profound theologian. His hymns were not merely songs but rich theological expressions, capturing the depth of his understanding of God’s grace, love, and redemption. Wesley’s theology emphasized the universal reach of God’s grace and the transformative power of love, truths he wove seamlessly into the lyrics of his hymns. His work serves as a reminder that music can be a powerful vehicle for teaching and experiencing God’s truth. His hymn “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” beautifully reflects the truth of God’s love, declaring, “Anticipate your heaven below, and own that love is heaven!” Wesley believed that living in God’s love now is a foretaste of the eternal joy awaiting us in heaven.