**United Parish in Brookline**

**February 21, 2021**

**Fruits of the Spirit: Humilty**

**Further Questions for Consideration**

What is humility to you?

Who in your life has embodied humility, either someone you’ve known personally or observed in the public eye?

How did it show in their words and actions?

What do you think about the idea that pride is really about trying to measure up to other people’s expectations and ideals?

If that’s true, whose expectations are we trying to meet when we’re humble?

*The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts themselves will be humbled, and whoever humbles themselves will be exalted.* Matthew 23:12

Humility in the Bible has an element of trust and a recognition of God’s magnificent power, but also an aspect of fear of God’s potential retribution if we do not aim ourselves toward righteousness. What does it mean to you to have a meek and humble heart? To be a servant leader?

Self-evaluation

What are your strongest attributes (like kindness, encouragement, warmth, friendliness) and talents (like cooking, singing, athletics)?

From whom did you receive them?

What are your weakest?

Where do you see room for potential growth?

If you have trouble answering these questions, imagine what some of the people who know you best might say.

When have you been humbled? What did the experience teach you?

How do you think God sees you?

Humility in the World

Many of us have focused more of our energy and efforts on advancing equality and reducing the forces of oppression in society, more focused on being bold and fearless than advancing and modeling humility. Are these two efforts compatible?