

Beauty for Ashes
Isaiah 9:6-7, 61
October 11, 2020

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. Have you ever visited your local city hall, Sacramento or Washington D.C.? What are your impressions of these spheres of our governmental process?
2. Which President do you most admire? What led you to this opinion of this person?
3. Some have defined leadership as influence. Who have been significant influences in your life? How did they impact you?
4. What do you see as the church's place in the political discourse and struggle in our country right now?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. All human societies have been organized with systems of order and power. In the Old Testament, how is power defined? Who was entrusted with power?
2. Read Isaiah 9:6-7. Isaiah's prophecy described power in the realm of God's reign. How did Jesus embody this in his ministry and ultimately through his death?
3. Read through our fall sermon text – Isaiah 61. What words in this passage speak of power? What does it mean to be empowered? Where does this power come from?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. As you think of your use of power and influence, what areas of your life do you need to confess for your misuse/abuse of power, need God to empower you or thank God for being empowered?
2. What can you pray for as we approach the November 3 election – for our leaders, the current power structures, for peace and justice?
3. How can Evergreen-LA steward responsibly and justly the influence and power we possess?