

## BLESSINGS ALWAYS

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Association Minister Message

Rev. Daniel L. Busch

*SHOWED*. “He took me in a Spirit-inspired trance to a great, high mountain, and he *SHOWED* me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God...” (Revelation 21:1, CEB). John’s visions, trances, ideas, and revelations might seem that he was under some hallucinatory drug. However, it would be an exciting experience to be taken to the heavens looking down on earth like what the astronauts experience without being in a capsule. What a view to behold the earth the size of a basketball. And then thinking about the earth in comparison to all the universes and how earth seems so insignificant in the totality of space. And yet faith reminds us that God cares for each one and all of us and the earth with love and generosity.

John’s comment that the Spirit “*SHOWED* me the holy city, Jerusalem...” raises the question “*What is God SHOWING* us” to do and be? What responsibility do we have to understanding the significance that we have as part of the creative process? Jesus *SHOWED* us how to live life as both human and divine. In the Gospel of John 14, Jesus said assuring words, “*Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give you not as the world gives. Don’t be troubled or afraid.*” (John 14:27, CEB). In these turbulent times, peace seems like a figment of our imaginations, so elusive and difficult to obtain. Greed and narcissism are the actions of so many people today interrupting the process of peace.

God *SHOWS* us how to be loving, forgiving, generous, and kind to others because God has done all those things for us and blesses us beyond our imaginations. What if God took us to a place where we could view ourselves physically and understand what motivates us and reveals the intentions that drive how we are living our lives? It could be a transforming moment to change us to become resurrected people. Jesus reminds us that “*The Companion, the Holy Spirit*” is with us. Jesus *SHOWED* the way of abundant living to be caring and generous children of God. The prophet Micah’s words (6:8) become clearer, “*God has SHOWN* you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?” We are God’s sons and daughters and sisters and brothers to one another. God calls us to *SHOW* others by our words and deeds that faith with love brings hope for peace and honor to the glory to God. *BLESSINGS ALWAYS*.