"People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God" (Luke 13:29).

You can't take it with you doesn't just apply to tangibles. God also gives us the gifts of time and of living in diverse communities. These gifts also show us the beauty of the heart of God. And, while this diversity is something we can look forward to celebrating in heaven, if we're not careful we can lose sight of these gifts God has given us in the here and now. So why not let today be our moment of opportunity, our chance to let the Holy Spirit guide us in living out heaven's values while we're here on Earth?

Dear Heavenly Father,

Please open our eyes to see the gifts you have provided us through our differences. Open our minds to learn about and celebrate our diversity. Open our hearts to embrace one another as we walk in your truth along the middle ground.

Amen

Chaplain Phil Merten of Institutional Ministries