

Second Sunday in Lent, Year BFebruary 28, 2021

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Faith, love, and hope are gifts of God. They grow and bear the fruit of grace and compassion.

***SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 2:15-21**

*** OPENING HYMN: # 710.....Faith of Our Fathers**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sin is so common in our lives that there is a real temptation to take it for granted and thereby sense no need for forgiveness.

People: We know we are sinners and need God's forgiveness, but we do not always act on that knowledge.

Leader: If we understand the depth of our sin and the magnitude of God's forgiveness, we would be bubbling over with love for what God has done!

People: How great is God's forgiveness! May our love for God show how much we have been forgiven.

*** Let us pray (Congregation):**

O Loving God, whose forgiveness is an ever-flowing expression of love to all who will receive it: Reveal our sinful nature to us that we may sense our need of your forgiveness and give expression to the great love we feel toward you. We pray through Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

451.....Be Thou My Vision

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

Dear Lord, we have assumed forgiveness without realizing the consequence of our sins from which your forgiveness has saved us. Our "acceptable" sins have brought little forgiveness; and little forgiveness has produced weak love, and weak love is not enough to make us rejoice. Forgive us for our apathy toward our sins and your forgiveness. We confess that our sins are immeasurable. Give us that kind of forgiveness, and our love will be more than we can contain. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

454.....Open My Eyes, That I May See

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God sets us free through Jesus,
and forgives our sins.

We live in the light of God's love.

***SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 7:36-50**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "A Sacrificial Faith"

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 452 My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

*** PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

*** CLOSING HYMN: # 98..... To God Be the Glory**

*** DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1st Scripture Reading: Galatians 2:15-21 (NKJV)

¹⁵ We *who are* Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, ¹⁶ knowing that a man is not ^[a] justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

¹⁷ “But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, *is* Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. ¹⁹ For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. ²¹ I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the law, then Christ died ^[b] in vain.”

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 7:36-50 (NKJV)

³⁶ Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee’s house, and sat down to eat. ³⁷ And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at the table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, ³⁸ and stood at His feet behind *Him* weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped *them* with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed *them* with the fragrant oil. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this*, he spoke to himself, saying, “This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.”

⁴⁰ And Jesus answered and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”

So he said, “Teacher, say it.”

⁴¹ “There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?”

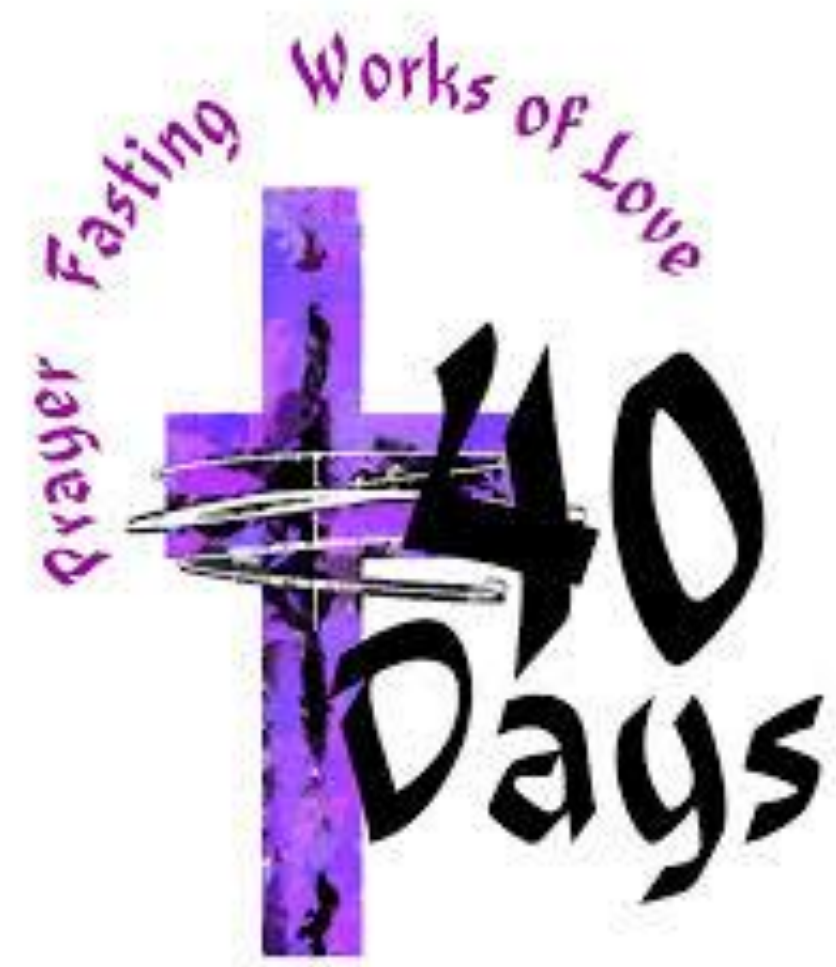
⁴³ Simon answered and said, “I suppose the *one* whom he forgave more.”

And He said to him, “You have rightly judged.” ⁴⁴ Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped *them* with the hair of her head. ⁴⁵ You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. ⁴⁷ Therefore I say to you, her sins, which *are* many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, *the same* loves little.”

⁴⁸ Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”

⁴⁹ And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?”

⁵⁰ Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”



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LeRoy United Methodist Church

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