

Trail Guide -- Week of November 2, 2020

Bishop Michael Curry records these words by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who he writes is one of three individuals “most responsible for” his choice of vocation: “We must learn to live together as brothers [and sisters] or perish together as fools.” (Love is the Way, Curry, p.4)

In an increasingly polarized culture, God weeps to see Christians who lay aside the second commandment except when we conveniently apply it to those with whom we agree. We have forgotten that the command to love is most important and most powerful when it is also most difficult. Bishop Curry helps us to see this in practical, concrete examples of people choosing love over hate; love over apathy; love that bridges instead of barricades; love with power to transform. This week, before and after the election, reflect on the verse(s) of the day and imagine “God’s dream of the beloved community” receiving and sharing the gift of God’s love for all that knows no winners or losers but sees only sisters and brothers. It’s a God thing. A gift of sight. May our eyes and hearts be opened.

Monday, 11/02 – [1 John 4:7-8](#) – proof of authenticity...

Tuesday, 11/03 – [John 14:1-3](#) – love creates room and makes space... God chooses your neighbor

Wednesday, 11/04 – [Romans 12:9-13](#) (NRSV) – mull the word, “genuine” especially the day after a national election! What do you hear Jesus saying to you about love?

Thursday, 11/05 – [Romans 12:14-17](#) – what is the most difficult thing for you to do in this passage? You don’t have to do it alone.

Friday, 11/06 – [Romans 12:18-21](#) – what is the difference between a thermometer and a thermostat? How can you set the right temperature in your home? Extended family? Church? Community? As you are driving in traffic? 🤔

Saturday, 11/07 – [Song of Solomon 8:7](#) – in the midst of this poetic drama of courtship and intimacy, a remarkable image emerges. Love will not be denied. Love will not be quenched. Love will not be overcome.

The command to love is most transformative when it is most difficult to do.