



PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD

 We are One in Christ
PNW Conference Devotional • Day Three

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:22-23, NRSV

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

REFLECTION: PEACE

By Rev. David Nieda

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.
John 14:27

These words spoken by Jesus come at a time of increasing uncertainty for the disciples. They had witnessed a royal reception for Jesus with shouts of "Hosanna!" as he entered into Jerusalem. They then experienced a complete reversal with Jesus taking the lowest of positions in washing their feet.

Immediately following, they heard him speak of a betrayal and denial from within the group and his own impending death. If it ever were an anxious time for the disciples, it was now. If ever they needed the gift of peace, it was now. Jesus assured the disciples that God's peace was with them.

These are anxious times for us. Despite this, God offers us this same peace that passes all understanding. And as receivers of that peace, we are called to live that peace within ourselves and with others despite worldly circumstances that create anxiety or conflict or division.

Cont.

Paul tells us in Romans, “If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people.” It is possible if we desire it, strive for it and lean into it. For with God, all things are possible.

PRAYER

Holy One, offer us assurance, as Jesus did for his disciples, in the midst of our anxiety. Move within us so that we might seek your gift of peace and bless the world with the same.

Amen.