

Fifth Sunday of Lent

A woman stands publicly humiliated.

This week in our Gospel story there is self-righteous anger, prejudice and uninformed judgment. Accusation.

Moses has ordered us to condemn women like this to death.

... a pause, quiet, a moment of contemplation, and a silent action...

Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger.

Mercy, wisdom and compassion prevail.

Jesus refuses to condemn.

This week in our world there is self-righteous anger, prejudice and uninformed judgment. Accusation. We rush to give our ill-informed opinion. We take sides. Make simplistic judgments. We hide behind the anonymity of the crowd, of the screen, not stopping to think that there is likely much more to the story than we know. We move on, leaving hurt and alienation in our wake.

Jesus teaches us to slow down. Take a breath. Refocus. Let go of needing to be judge and punisher.



It's pretty difficult to be mean, rash, and accusatory when we intentionally enter a gentle, contemplative space.