

“MINISTER’S Message”

June 2, 2020

Walk in the Way of Love ...

Peace and love to you, friends in faith. The following is a piece I wrote for the Olds newspaper’s Hope and Happenings column. Each week one of the local ministry personnel or pastors writes a reflective piece to share with the community. Each week, we get a message of hope. This week, I found it hard to be hopeful, as I listen to the news stories of the riots and protests happening to the south of us. As a Christian, I look for that hope in the life and mission of Jesus. As a Christian, I hope that peace may prevail on earth, for all of God’s people. And so I wrote this for the paper:

Our world is off kilter. I’m sad, and I wonder, will it ever end? Will racism ever end? This isn’t just an America problem. Racism exists in Canada too. It exists in the communities in which we live.

Once again, we heard recently of the death of an African American person at the hands of a police officer, in the United States. Once again, our neighbours to the south of us are in turmoil, as people protest the injustice of this most recent death. In the midst of all this, there’s all kinds of news reporting related to this, and it is not clear whose truth is real truth.

And then the President of the United States took the opportunity to have a photo op in front of a church building, holding a bible. First though, the people in the church yard were assaulted with tear gas and forced out of the yard. These were people supporting peaceful protesters with water, food, and first aid. These were church and community volunteers, standing in solidarity with people who have been oppressed for far too long. They were violently pushed aside for a photo moment.



I can’t help but imagine Jesus, weeping at this scene, weeping, and praying, and then calling upon the people of God to follow the words of the prophet Micah – to seek justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God. That is what we must do to end racism, to end the hurt, and the hate, and the violence. We must stand up, we must speak up, we must walk in the way of Jesus. We must walk in the way of love. Hope begins here, at home, with each step you and I take, toward a world of love.

Blessings,

Rev. Tammy Allan

Olds-Sundre Pastoral Charge of the United Church