

Minister's Message

April 2025

Friends, we have been focused on walking a mile in the shoes of others during this Lenten season. The phrase "walking a mile in someone else's shoes" calls us to a life of deep empathy and understanding. To walk in another's shoes means to see the world through their eyes, to feel their joys, struggles, and pain, and to approach them with compassion rather than judgment. As Easter people—those who live in the light of the resurrection of Jesus Christ—this call becomes not just an ethical guideline, but a spiritual imperative.

Easter celebrates the ultimate act of sacrificial love and redemption.

Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are called to embody the transformative power of grace. This means adopting a posture of humility, compassion, and reconciliation in every interaction. As Easter people, walking in someone else's shoes is not just a metaphor; it is the way we live out the commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Embracing the Burden and Blessing of Others When we make the effort to understand someone else's struggles, we participate in Christ's call to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2). This might mean listening without judgment to the stories of those who differ from us—socially, culturally, or politically. It could involve advocating for the voiceless, serving those in need, or simply being present for someone in pain. Walking in another's shoes doesn't mean we solve every problem; it means we share in their journey, lightening their load with the love and hope Christ gives us.

This journey of empathy is not without challenges. To truly walk a mile in another's shoes may take us into uncomfortable territories—exposing our own biases or forcing us to confront issues we would rather ignore. Yet, it also expands our capacity to love and deepens our faith. By seeing the image of God in others, even in those we might find difficult to relate to, we grow into the fullness of what it means to be Easter people.

Walking in another's shoes does not stop with understanding their pain. Easter reminds us that we are people of hope. As resurrection people, our walk is not just a journey of empathy but also of encouragement, bringing light to dark places. We walk alongside others, not as saviors, but as companions pointing to the hope found in Christ.

To walk a mile in someone else's shoes as Easter people is to embrace the radical love and grace of the resurrection. It calls us to live lives of empathy, courage, and hope, bridging divides and building connections in a fractured world. In doing so, we reflect the heart of the Gospel—a love that knows no boundaries and a grace that transforms lives.

Friends, as well celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us not forget that as Easter people we are called to live out Jesus' ministry to and with others. We cannot ignore the vulnerable, those different from us, the outcast and forgotten. Where is Christ calling you to walk in the shoes of another? We are Easter People!

Let us be a living example of sharing the Good News with all around us!

Blessings! - Rev Cindy