

Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent March 10, 2009

Scripture: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Psalm 50:8-9; 16-17; 21-21; Matthew 21:1-12

Reflection: Listen! Hear! Understand!

There is a sense of immediacy in today's scripture readings. They sound the call to be in right relation with God and God's people. We are challenged as the people of God to change our ways and yield to God's ways, not for our own gain, but for the good of all. We are encouraged to free ourselves from that which keeps us from hearing God and the unmet needs of God's people and to embrace the role of a humble servant, prepared to respond with generosity to those who are wronged, defenseless, marginalized, and carrying burdens they cannot bear. We are asked to look at life not just as it is but how it could be and to do it now.

Now is the time for a new heart and an alternative vision - a vision that replaces fear, hopelessness, and barriers that separate people, with a hope that aches for a different future aligned with God and God's ways. Now is the time to imagine anew what it means to be members of one another and to evidence an ethic of care that nurtures a new and different future. Now is the time.

Suggested Action: Tonight, as you gather the fragments of the day and reflect on them, be aware of the influence that others had on you as you listened attentively to them. What insights and emotions did you experience as you listened? What did you learn about yourself as a listener?



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