

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

—1 Corinthians 12:4-7

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

As Jesus puts together his team, he allows space for the varied gifts of the disciples. Even betrayal can be seen as a gift in the larger context of God's plan.

My work on the Episcopal Asset Map has been such a blessing. Spending the day listening to people talk about all of their giftedness has transformed me. I know that our Church is not dying – it is being transformed. The Church is going through its own Lenten season: We are letting go of things that keep us from connecting with our communities, releasing physical and spiritual barriers, building new and transforming relationships and stretching our edges as we live deeply into the life-giving Gospel of inclusion.

Stripping away the things that separate me from God and my community prepares me for death and resurrection. My times of loss didn't feel good, but with the support of my community, I have come out on the other side. These scars have been transformed into gifts for the common good.

What scars have been transformed into gifts in your community?

—Tamara Plummer