



April 8, 2020

Wednesday of Holy Week

The Way Of Love

by Scott Stoner

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

—Ephesians 3:17-19 (NIV)

Michael Curry, the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, along with a group of his colleagues, has created a guide for living the Christian life: *The Way of Love*. This guide outlines seven critical practices for living a life of faith: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest. If you are not familiar with it, I encourage you to explore the many online resources that bring these seven practices to life.

In our culture, the idea of love is often talked about as a feeling. A deeper understanding of love, though, is grounded in the realization that love is first and foremost a decision, an act of faith, an act of the will. To love in the face of fear, in the face of overwhelming challenges, and even in the face of death, is to make a decision, a choice, to love. As we have learned in our journey together this Lent, this choice takes courage, ongoing courage, to choose to walk the way of love one day, one decision, at a time.

The New Testament is overflowing with teachings about the way of love. Yet no teaching is more powerful than the actions we recall this week as we walk the way of love with Jesus through Holy Week.

Making It Personal: What do you think of the idea that love is much more than a feeling, that it is a decision, a choice, a way of living? Can you think of a time when it took courage for you to walk the way of love? What did you learn from that experience?