



November 6, 2024

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice! Psalm 130:1*

*Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted. Matthew 5:4*

Dear faithful advocates,

How did you feel waking up today? That's what I thought. Not everyone is in complete unison. Some are okay with the outcome of the election. But I know that a lot of you are feeling confused, not completely surprised but shocked, deeply

sad, or outraged. What else are you feeling? It is indeed a time for lament.

I woke up thinking about my wedding to another woman and wondering if my marriage is now at risk - not our love - but our ability to remain married, with a Supreme Court that has already revealed murmurings about altering the law to leave same sex marriage up to the states. What about queer youth and messages they are hearing? What about youth in general witnessing a public figure exuding a toxic form of masculinity? What about refugees, those who experience hunger, and targets of racism? What is the message to black women about a black female candidate who excels?

About a third of the Psalms are about lament but we don't focus on them often. Lament is nothing fancy. It is simple conversation with God and one another when we want to cry, or scream, or we feel like a deer in the headlights of a car wondering which way to turn. Lament is related to injustice and brings us in solidarity with others who suffer like us, or those in completely different situations. Lament softens us to experience our shared humanity and revitalizes our voice to name falsehoods and injustice.

Let us find ways to lament in the days and weeks to come, joining with others who invite you or via your invitation for community. May our paths for speaking truth and doing justice emerge from our lament and God's grace, but not as robots or perfect beings. We can linger in lament during the breaks in our day as we need.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Cindy