

🕯️ **Choice Three: To Be Honest with Myself and with God**
“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing
can be changed until it is faced.”

James Baldwin

Reflection: Aaron Rolling

🕯️ **“The LORD is kind and merciful.”**

As far as the east is from the west,
So far has he put our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
So the LORD on those who fear him.

✝️ **Closing prayer:**

Lord God, we stand before you this morning to thank you
for your mercy and kindness.

We humbly pray that you ignite the fire within us to that we
might choose to live as you meant for us to live. We ask for
the courage we need to forgive. We ask for the strength of
heart to love as you love. We ask for the wisdom to choose
the hard right over the easy wrong.

We gather as a community to lend support to one another
during this season of Lent. Walk with us, dear Lord, help us
to set aside our weakness and hypocrisy and perform all our
actions for the love of you.

(Arranged by Brother Tim Coldwell)

Light the Flame Within

🕯️ **Opening Reflection**

🕯️ **Let us remember . . .**

🕯️ **“The LORD is kind and merciful.”**

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And forget not all his benefits.

🕯️ **Reading: *Matthew 6***

But take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that
people may see them; otherwise, you will have no

recompense from your heavenly Father. When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you. In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.

The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

🕯 **Reflection: Hypocrisy and Integrity**

🕯 **Choice One: To Forgive and Judge Not**

Second Inaugural Address: Abraham Lincoln

“With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in”

🕯 **“The LORD is kind and merciful.”**

He pardons all your iniquities,
Heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
Crowns you with kindness and compassion.

🕯 **Choice Two: To Live Undivided and Wholehearted**
“Establish the counsel of your own heart for no one is more faithful to you than it is.”

Sirach 37

Reflection: Blake Mogabgab

🕯 **“The LORD is kind and merciful.”**

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
Slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
Nor does he requite us according to our crimes.