

Monday, May 29, 2017 - Day 148 – I Chronicles 25-27, Psalm 119:145-176, Romans 10

Romans 10:21 “All day long I have stretched out my hand to an unruly and defiant people.”

If you have ever been a parent to a toddler, then a teenager, this verse will resonate within you.

If you have ever been a teacher for a length of time, this verse will ring true in your ears.

If you have read the gospel stories of Jesus' rebuking of Peter and his exasperation with James and Andrew, this passage will bring it into focus for you.

God has been calling to us for hundreds of years, throughout our story as people on the journey of faith together. God's outstretched hand has grown cold more times than not; God's offer of sanctuary has gone unheeded. Whether in the verses of 1 Chronicles or the letter to the Romans, our track record is littered with the desire of immediate self-fulfillment that blows away God's offer of stability for the long term. If the people did not listen to Isaiah then why would they listen to Paul? Why has God not given up?

I have been a parent for 42 years. My children have pushed me to the edge but I cannot give up on them! There is a hope in creation that runs deep and wide and strong. God has built in a lifeline no thicker than a silk thread and just as hard to break. God believes that as long as we are tethered with that lifeline we will find our way back. And God will be there loving us, with a warm, outstretched hand ready to embrace us. I believe.

By The Very Rev. Donna Maree