

Today is the fifth Sunday of Lent. As we near the end of our Lenten Journey, our readings once again reveal the height and depth of God's love and mercy.

In the gospel, the religious leaders bring before Jesus a woman caught in adultery. They ask Jesus to uphold the law that says this woman must be stoned to death.

Notice what Jesus does: Jesus does not condemn the religious leaders for wanting to uphold the law but asks them to reflect on their lives.

And Jesus does not condemn the woman, but asks her to search her heart and live a new life.

We are reminded once again that Jesus did not come to condemn us but to forgive us, to show us the way to live lives of mercy and forgiveness.

Today let us follow Jesus' way to live by not judging others...or ourselves... and to open our hearts and believe that Jesus does not condemn us...but invites us to accept ourselves...to forgive ourselves...to love ourselves... and one another...no exceptions!

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us pray with and for one another that we may allow the tender mercy that Jesus offers to take root in our hearts this day.