



Lent reflection for April 11, 2025

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Psalm 130: 1-8

*Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!*

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.*

*O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.
It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.*

Today's reflection is from Olivia Arnold:

Out of the whole psalm the thing that gave me the most hope was how God forgave the psalmist.

It's a concrete part of our faith that God will forgive us. Part of what helps me continue to practice my faith is knowing that God won't give up on me. I will sin and God will forgive me. I'll never be left behind.

I remember a basketball game my sister played a little while ago. Her team was dominating the game, the score was some crazy difference (Well as crazy as it can be with 10 year olds.). Towards the end of the game the other team was starting to give up, they were tired. Eventually the refs called the game because the score was too large, putting in effect the mercy rule. God's mercy rule is forgiving us of our sins no matter what. God sees us struggling and comes to our aid. His job is to provide us comfort. And just like with the basketball team when we're facing

hardships, there will always be someone or something that will guide us out of tough situations, showing us mercy. For the basketball team that was the mercy rule the league has in place. For us it's God.

What keeps me practicing my faith is knowing that God won't give up on me. He'll forgive me and I'll be able to stay with Him. God has always been there for us, guiding us, loving us, having mercy on us.



Olivia Arnold lives a few blocks away from the church with her parents and sister. An 8th grader at MS 442 she spends her time reading, watching sports with her family, and being with friends.