

Weekly Meditation by Rev. Teri Lubbers

Gathering In

Through the falling snow you have no visibility. The whole landscape, as far as you can see in every direction, is snow. Your compass says you are heading in the right direction, but there is nothing in the bleak landscape to be guided by. Day after day you walk, alone, unsure of the way, but believing if you can keep going long enough you will eventually reach a place where others are.

Through the wind and flying snow you think you can now see shapes in the distance ahead, small shapes barely darker than the surrounding snow, you only know they are there because you notice their movement. As you approach, as you get closer, you realize that these moving shapes are people, the first you have seen in weeks. Finally you know they see you. You stop and wait. And as you stand there, ready to collapse from sheer exhaustion, they begin to gather round you...they gather you in...they take you home. - This image comes from the movie "Snow Walker"

There are times in our lives when it feels like we are walking alone in a desolate place, and we wonder if we will ever get home. There might have been times when we even believed that no matter how far we walked we would never meet another living soul. But then we do, and we feel a rush like angels' wings around us, the warmth of breath, the strength of arms, we see glory in their faces, and no matter what comes next we know we will be okay, because we are not alone, we are found.

Last Sunday at Agape – Pink Sunday – felt like that to me. Of course I watched it from afar on video, with Kleenex close at hand. I watched as Grace gathered everyone in. And I listened to her witness to how all of you have gathered her in. Community... we are not alone...we have already won.

Prayer: God, remind me again and again until I believe it...we are One. Amen.