

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

January 23, 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nehemiah 8:2–4a, 5–6, 8–10 † 1 Corinthians 12:12–30 † Luke: 1–4; 4:14–21



Reflection by: Sister Barbara Moore, OP

Who Are WE? Who Are WE Called to Be?

Listening to a recent TV news segment, the conversation focused on New Year's resolutions. The commentators shared their stories with humor and wit. With some success stories, there were more with admissions of varying lengths of fizzing out—amusing incidents where they were “caught in the act” of cheating or of total “memory loss”!

How easy it is for me to forget good intentions. What caught my attention as I ruminated over our Scripture reading for today is that need to be reminded but on a deeper, spiritual level.

With the remnants of a people free from exile, Ezra, the priest/scribe called the Community together. Ezra opened the Scroll and read plainly from daybreak to mid-day. Called to reaffirm faithfulness to their Hebrew heritage and to the Mosaic Law, the people respond: Amen, Amen. They have been reminded, and they remember.

In similar fashion, Luke, the gentile theologian, sets about recording the Good News of Jesus for all to read. Everyone loves a story. Luke is a storyteller, so it is in this fashion that he captures the life, teachings, and spirit of Jesus. In its reading and reflecting we remember who we are. We are reminded of who we are called to become as we absorb the personality, actions, and choices of Jesus.

In today's second reading Paul reminds us of who we are.
We are gifted with differing abilities, differing persona, united in Christ.
We are one body, one Spirit.
Ezra and Luke remind us of who we are called to be, a people of God.
We are reminded and remember.