

Monday, 26 April 2021 – Weekly Inspiration from Rev. Jason

Yesterday, during a refresher course to drive fire engines, I gently "nudged" a couple of the cones.

The other day, I became frustrated when trying to parent a toddler.

I forgot a paragraph of a sermon.

I missed a deadline.

I let my emotions get the better of me.

I neglected to run the errand that needed to be done.

In short, I messed up. And I proved once again how 'not perfect' I am.

But we are not called to be perfect, at least not of our own selves and by our own power. We are fully imperfect beings, and prone to mistakes and missteps (there are lots of hymns and theological writings on this). It's why we confess in worship each week: we know we've missed the mark.

But we also know that a) we want to do better and be more faithful in Christ, and b) we are called to be faithful, first and foremost.

In his letter, John the Apostle reminds us, "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us his Spirit" (1 John 4:11-13, NRSV).

We are not going to be perfect in this world; we are going to miss the mark. But God's love abides in us, still, and by God his love in us is perfected, as we extend this love to one another. It's okay to make mistakes, we all do (and will!); so long as we keep loving in God's name, the Spirit will make up the difference (and help us start anew).

Prayer: God of Love, may we know your love through Christ your Son. Enable to us to fixate on living more fully in your perfected love instead of dwelling on our mistakes. Help us to love one another, rather than defining each other by our imperfections. For the glory of your Kingdom we pray. Amen.