

## *Share Your Bread with the Hungry*

David Haas

Clothe the naked and take them to your care;  
do not turn your back on your own.  
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your wounds will be bound and healed.

*If you share your bread with the hungry,  
if you welcome the poor to your home,  
then your light will shine, your light will shine,  
and the sun will rise once more.*

And your dignity shall go forth before you,  
and the glory of God shall keep you safe.  
Then you shall call, and God will answer,  
you will cry and God will be there.

If you remove all oppression from your midst,  
and the shame of those who do you harm.  
If you offer your bread to the hungry,  
your God will dwell with you.

Thank You For Joining Us!

Prayer Leader:

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## *Repentance is about rebirth*



Centering Space

A ministry of prayer,  
listening & direction

Our prayer is characterized  
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.  
God is present in all our lives.  
God cares for us, and  
our life experiences are a source  
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence  
we share from our hearts.

## Ponder: An excerpt from City of God by Sara Miles

Repentance, in Christian practice, is not a psychological or an emotional process. “Feelings,” Paul declared once when I brought him some intractable problem with a troubled parishioner, “are stupid.” I thought he must be joking, but Paul insisted. “Jesus doesn’t care if you feel guilty. Jesus wants you to change.”

Neither is repentance about simply saying you’re sorry. “That’s just apology,” explained Paul, “which is about etiquette. Repentance is about rebirth. It means putting on your big-girl panties and facing the world to do things differently.”

“Is *this* the kind of fast I have chosen,” God demands, in Isaiah’s account, “one day for lying on sackcloth and ashes? Is *that* what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

Repentance means turning toward other human beings, our own flesh and blood, whenever they’re oppressed, hungry, or imprisoned; it means acting with compassion instead of indifference. It means turning away, “fasting,” from any of the little and big things that can keep us from God – drugs, religion, busyness, video games, lies – and accepting the divine embrace with all our hearts. Repentance requires paying attention to others, and learning to love, even a little bit, what God loves so much: the whole screwed-up world, this holy city, the people God created to be his own.

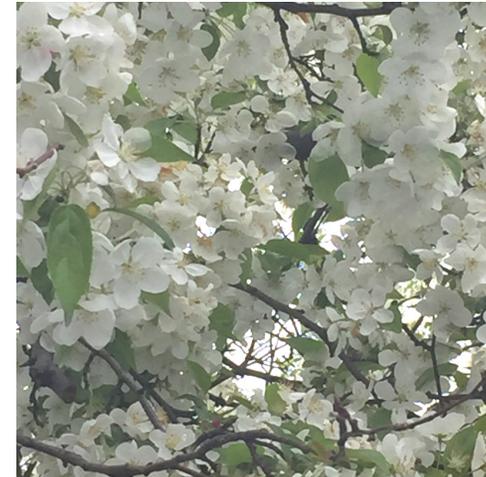
We were all so messed up.

“The worst thing we can imagine is that we’re made out of dirt and going to die,” Paul said to me once. “But when we say it aloud, we discover the worst thing isn’t the last thing. The last thing is forgiveness.”

## Reading Matthew 25 Message Translation

I was hungry and you fed me,  
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,  
I was homeless and you gave me a room,  
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,  
I was sick and you stopped to visit,  
I was in prison and you came to me.

Whenever you did one of these things  
to someone overlooked or ignored,  
that was me – you did it to me



Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...