

Today's readings reflect the relationship between love and forgiveness – an intimate connection that begins and ends with God's abundant love for us.

Do you know this God of abundant love, not the one who records all your misdeeds in that big black book, but the one who rejoices in your goodness and kindness?

Do you know this God of abundant love who walks beside you, helping you to uncover and correct the error of your ways – all the while encouraging you and loving you into wholeness?

In the Gospel, we meet a woman, known to all as a sinner, who washes and anoints the feet of Jesus. Jesus receives the gift of this woman's tender act of love and returns it. Forgiveness celebrates the great love that God has for her.

Today, reflect on a time when you were forgiven for something you thought was unforgivable. How did that act of forgiveness fill you with great love - and change your life?

Today, let us pray that we may become a people of tenderness and mercy – toward one another and toward ourselves. May we turn our hearts to God in true repentance and discover the heart of God open and waiting - with love and forgiveness – for us.