



*Dear First Presbyterian Friends,*

A friend of mine who shares my love of basketball said the other day that it would be a sure proof of the existence of God if Butler, the University of Northern Iowa, Cornell and St. Mary's are the Final Four! Alas, it was not to be. I appreciate the humor of that and as an infracanineophile (one who loves underdogs!), I would have greatly enjoyed seeing that come to pass.

But as we make our way through Holy Week, let us remember and ponder this: the proof of God's amazing love is this, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5.8). That is the demonstration not only of God's existence, but of God's love for us. As the beloved hymn puts it: "Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all."

Let me share a pastoral note with you as I know many of you were concerned about the wellbeing of Vera Strongman who fainted in worship on Palm Sunday. Although she was already feeling better by the time paramedics arrived, she was taken to the hospital for observation and is now at home and feeling much better. Many thanks to Dave Anderson, Lillian Henry, Rick Meyers, Scott Hummel, and members of the pastoral staff for their help in this moment. Do please keep Vera in your prayers.

A blessed Holy Week to you all.

See you in church.

Grace and peace,

*Jany Farris*