

Readings
August 4, 2019

First Reading

Psalm 107:2-9, adapted from *The Message* by Eugene Peterson

Oh, thank God—who is so good! Love never runs out. All of you set free by God, tell the world! Tell how you were freed from oppression, then rounded up from all over the place, from the four winds, from the seven seas.

Some of you wandered for years in the desert, looking but not finding a good place to live, half-starved and parched with thirst, staggering and stumbling, on the brink of exhaustion.

Then, in your desperate condition, you called out to God. You got out in the nick of time; your feet were placed on a wonderful road that took you straight to a good place to live. So give thanks for such marvelous love, for miraculous mercy to the children God loves.

Second Reading

Richard Rohr in *Essential Teachings on Love*

Divine personhood and human personhood are reciprocal, mutual concepts. God's nature as relationship creates ours; and openness and capacity to love. We must know that we are in fact objectively lovable to honestly be able to love ourselves. We cannot pretend. Our false self is never fully ready to trust in unconditional love. Maybe forgiveness and forbearance, but not unconditional love.... You cannot get to such a place; you can only rest and rejoice in such a place.