

# Youth Curriculum for Lent-Easter

*Written by Rev. Anna Strickland*

Wandering Heart  
Figuring out faith with Peter



THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

## Wandering Heart: "Teach me"

**Read** Matthew 18:15-22

### Discuss

- What do you think of Jesus' step-by-step advice for dealing with conflict? Have you ever followed this when someone hurt you? How did that go? What would this look like if applied on a larger scale, such as in our criminal justice system? Are there any specific situations or circumstances where you would choose not to follow this advice?
- Jesus says that if the offender refuses to listen to the church, one should "treat them as you would a Gentile or a tax collector." Read Matthew 9:9-13. How does this passage affect how you understand what it means to treat someone as a tax collector?
- What rules do you live by when it comes to forgiveness? Is forgiveness a gift for you, for the person you're forgiving, or both? How do you forgive a repeat offender while still holding healthy boundaries?
- Essentially, Jesus' answer to Peter is: keep forgiving, over and over. How does this feel when you're the person offering forgiveness? How does this feel when you're the person receiving forgiveness?

### Journal

- Cover the page in your school colors. On top of the colors, write five "life lessons" you have learned that you would want to pass on to the next generation.
- Read the psalm for this week: Psalm 119:9-16. Rewrite the psalm in your own words.
- Write a seven line poem about forgiveness. Illustrate your poem around the edges of the page.
- Listen to the song, "Oh How I Need You" by All Sons & Daughters as you draw, color, or collage on a page. Add the lyric that most resonates with you.

**Pray** Dear God, it is so easy to put into words the best ways to live in community, but it's not so easy to put into practice. People are messy; we make mistakes. Give us the courage to speak up when someone hurts us or others. Give us the courage to say we're sorry and make amends. Give us the courage to keep forgiving, over and over again. Amen.