**VICTORY IS MINE!**

*“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”*

*Psalm 51*

A friend and I were having a conversation about aging. I asked her if she ever noticed that the older you get, the more you seem to reflect back over your life, and the many mistakes you made? After exchanging a few stories, we both agreed that Satan always has of way of trying to make you feel bad and trick you into thinking your sins were never forgiven.

During this Lenten season, I am so humbled that God could love a sinner like me. Knowing that I’ve failed so many times, He still continues to love me over and over again. It’s a blessing knowing I can find peace through prayer and worship.

I’m so thankful that I’m not saved by my own strength, my own ambitions or desires, but by God’s mercy and grace. I thank God daily for salvation through His Son Jesus Christ.

Today I woke up singing, “What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again, nothing but the blood of Jesus.”

By His stripes I am healed, by His blood I am washed clean, I may not get it right all the time, but my daily prayer is, “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.” A spirit of peace, a spirit of kindness, and spirit of patience, a spirit of love. The Holy Spirit reminds me every day, that I am a child of God, bought with a price, and the blood shed for me has set me free. I am no longer in bondage, I can no longer be held captive, for my Redeemer lives, and is alive for ever more.

Each of us have that same victory! One that can only be given by God. Satan is a liar, what he thought could bring me down, only lifts me up. I have a Savior that has all power in His hands. Power over death, power over life, power to raise the dead, power to set the captives free.

May this Lenten season, remind you of the loving and forgiving God we serve.

Elder Cary