

Diane

This morning Judith ... and Judith ... and I ... are going to reflect on the translation of the Greek word *Kairos* in verses of the New Revised Standard Version.

Kairos as God's time has depth and its own dimensions of meaning: *Kairos* as..the time .. fulfilled; the present time; the time .. of your visitation from God; The time...the moment; and the acceptable time. Each will be followed by a call to Action.

Al Ritchie will read the Biblical text before each brief reflection.

Mark 1: 14 -15 The time ...is fulfilled!

Jesus brought forth KAIROS as "the Time" fulfilled. The time for conversion, for us to turn around our perspective and to be intentional about what are doing, saying, and being; about making justice the norm.

It is about being intentional about what we do, read, watch, learn. A couple of years ago, we saw Al Gore's movie '*An Inconvenient Truth*' (DVD held up) and we learned more about the over-all look of what is happening to the environment, and the most tragic impact we are having on God's earth. St. Andrew's drew up a Policy passed by Council, on the use of bottled water here, including being intentional in teaching our children about water being one of God's gifts - freely given for all.

Marcus Borg in his book, '*Jesus,*' is speaking in KAIROS terms, as he writes: "The Bible is both personal and political. It is about God's passion for another kind of world - one in which people have enough, not as a result of charity, but as the fruit of justice, and where nations do not war against one another anymore, and where systems are so common that they can be called the normalcy of civilization."

KAIROS is now! It is the time to turn everything around to bring about the ~ time fulfilled!

A basic Action to fulfill this is: To recognize each person on this planet is our sister, or brother.

Judith Traulsen

Red sun at night the sailor's delight. We are all familiar with this saying. In Luke 12: 54-56 Jesus points out that we know the signs of the weather but challenges us to see the signs of the times in which we live. Go green, don't pollute, reduce recycle, reuse. On October 13 dozens of delegates at the Kyoto discussions in Thailand walked out as Canada suggested abandoning much of the Kyoto Protocol. The differences between have and have not nations is growing too big. The time to act is now. It is *Kairos* time. So what can one person do? To start we can sign the petition in the narthex asking the government to keep their word on climate change. It is important to support this now. In December world nations will meet in Copenhagen Denmark to ratify what will be done.

Judith Visser REFLECTION ON LUKE 19:44

Kairos is a dangerous time. It is critical to recognize *kairos* time because, if we allow it to pass, the loss will be immeasurable. There is a burden or responsibility tied up in the recognition of *kairos*. It's not easy to talk about burden and responsibility. It makes people nervous, skittish, uncomfortable. Even for a preacher, it's a challenge. And yet—we are not being authentic followers of Jesus if we don't go to those hard, prophetic places of challenge.

There is a growing understanding that Jesus, gentle shepherd that he might be, is also the radical challenger—the One who opposes the powers of oppression and empire and economic injustice and violence. The thing is, Jesus challenges, but not in the way of the world. He doesn't meet violence with violence, but rather with *non-violent* resistance. And

that means that there's a really good chance of something tough happening to him—like crucifixion.

That road to Jerusalem is a hard road to walk. Once we make the choice to walk it, some other choices are no longer open to us. We become extremely vulnerable. Here's an example:

Marlene Gonzales is a union organizer in the Philippines. She began working with unions in response to the long hours and poor wages she suffered while working at the Chong Won Fashion garment factory, a clothing supplier for Wal-Mart. In 2000, she was fired from Chong Won for her activities. Since that day, she has become more active in trying to protect workers throughout the export processing zone, a zone of cheap labour encouraged with massive tax breaks for corporations by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Marlene works as a full time labour organizer and sits on the Board of Directors of the Workers Assistance Center in the Philippines, an organization set up to help workers in the export processing zone defend their rights.

Today, union organizers like Marlene are being beaten and killed in the Philippines as the government pursues its free trade agenda at all costs to workers and their supporters.

I've put together a collage with information from the kairoscanada website. Some of this data will challenge you profoundly. But let's take courage from knowing that, as the death-dealing powers are exposed, we make room for the vision of a new creation. That is the grace and beauty of resurrection. And let's remember that Jerusalem is also where resurrection happens. Thanks be to God!

Diane

Romans 13: 11 – 13 The time .. the moment!

Kairos is this moment... each moment. It lives among us calling urgently for changes to our heart and mind. It is the call to action.

In the biggest mass action in history last year over 116 million people in 127 countries Stood UP against poverty. They stood in campuses, schools, arenas, back yards, villages, and city streets.

Last Friday night, with people around the world, The Sudbury Chapter of Make Poverty History called for Faith communities and others, to gather in the decision to Stand UP against Poverty. As we set up we talked about flowers, but why flowers? Poverty is not pretty, nice, it is offensive, stark, demeaning of people's God-given dignity.

A representative from each Faith community reflected, prayed, and sang and drummed, each in their own Tradition. At the end of the evening, we stood UP in solidarity and loudly proclaimed the Make Poverty History Stand UP Pledge to say that we would keep working to see that poverty is ended, here and around the world.

As each person came forward, they lit a candle, and this is one of them. (red candle up) The messages, prayers and stories told us clearly, KAIROS time is this moment !

The Action is that there is a sheet for Make Poverty History at the back, to sign to indicate you support the end of poverty.

Judith Traulsen

In II Corinthians 6:1 & 2 Paul reminds the church to work together with God and through God's grace to show our faith in action. We look at our human frailty and say "What can I do I am just one person?" Mother Therese said " In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love" Each thing we do with God's help and guidance will bring us closer to Kairos time and God's grace.