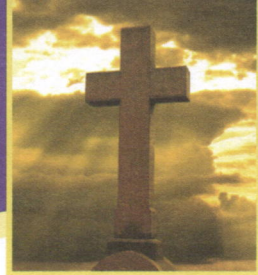


Second Sunday in Lent



Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development

Reader: The Lenten journey continues.

All: Lent's questions confront us.

Reader: Where will the road take us?

All: What kind of people will we be?

Reader: Are we like Abraham, and prepared to leave the familiar behind and travel into unknown territory?

All: Are we prepared to be born anew by God's Spirit?

Reader: The quest will test us and try us.

All: We pray that Jesus will be our guide.

Reader: Let us pray.

God of the unknown road:
your invitation towards new life
is an awesome one;
it claims every dimension of our lives.
We confess that we are
filled with excuses,
we are riddled with fear,
we are stuck in old patterns.

All: Stay with us as we listen for your call.
Stay with us as we wrestle
with our history.
Stay with us as we seek
your kingdom. Amen.



Women Lead the Way in Reconstruction Efforts in Nepal

Almost two years after the earthquake destroyed 600,000 buildings throughout Nepal, close-knit villagers in Sanogaoan have revived many broken homes. Places of ruin are now alive with the sights and sounds of restoration.

There has been another transformation. Many women — used to doing household work and farming — are taking the lead in rebuilding efforts.

"When I first came, women hardly spoke in meetings," says emergency response officer Madhu Sunam. "The earthquake pushed them out of their comfort zone. The women are now quite vocal."

The small business development program Presbyterian World Service & Development is supporting through the ACT Alliance is also promoting women's empowerment.

Saru Shrestha received a grant to open a small shop, which is helping her pay school fees for her siblings. "My dream is to open a second shop, selling cosmetics," says the inspired young entrepreneur.

This Lenten season let us faithfully respond to Christ's call to serve those in need. Support for PWS&D is helping women improve their livelihoods as they recover from the earthquake.

PWS&D is a member of

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