



PASTOR KARIN MOBERG

TIME FOR MERCY

-Jan Arden

Why does everybody hurt
 Every bitter sickening word breaks my
 heart
 Why can't anybody hear
 When the thunder disappears and the
 sun breaks free
 It's time for mercy
 It's time for mercy
 Mercy me
 Every color every shade
 Everyone an angel made from the breath
 of God
 I'm your mother, your son
 I am not the other one that you love to
 hate
 It's time for mercy
 It's time for mercy...



Pastor's Message

It's a time for mercy. The rise of hate speech, the slaughter of worshippers at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, bombs sent to past presidents, political leaders, and a news organization, and the stoking of fear and hatred for families traveling together in search of safety and seeking asylum... all in just a few days... I don't know about you, but I'm so tired. "Every sickening word breaks my heart." Today, Jann Arden's poetry speaks to me. It's a time for mercy."

We are each other's keepers. "I'm your mother, your son, I am not the other one that you love to hate." We belong to each other, "everyone an angel made from the breath of God." That's what we believe as followers of Christ. For God so loved the WHOLE COSMOS (in Greek) – not just 'our world', however we might define that. I am grieved that so many do not see this love and welcome exhibited by Christians.

It is indeed a time for mercy. I'm searching for it! Praying for it! And hoping to extend it in the words I speak and the way I treat others. Seems small – but it's one thing I have the power to do. These days mercy has come to me through the youth who have been preparing for November 4th when they will be publicly affirming their faith and receiving the blessing of families and the parish. I wish each of you had the opportunity I've had to meet with these young people over the last two years. I wish you had the same privilege I've had to be able to read each faith statement in fullness, and to visit with these youth individually. Their stories are like mercy drops falling from heaven – honest, authentic, and embracing of a God of love.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
 AS YOURSELF.

MATTHEW 22:39

Come to worship November 4th as we bless these youth who are affirming the faith in which we baptize – Come and give thanks for those who have strengthened your faith, give thanks for the love that helped shape you, give thanks for the calling we share to provide instruction in the Christian faith and opportunities to serve and grow. Come as we remember what it means to live a spirit-filled life.

It's time for mercy.
 It's time for mercy.

Pastor Karin