

SCRIPTURE (Translations from *A Women's Lectionary**)

Colossians 3:5-11

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever part of you that is of the earth: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greediness which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these [things] the wrath of God is coming on the spawn of disobedience. ⁷ In these things you also once followed, when you were living in that way. ⁸ But now you all must put away all anger, wrath, wickedness, slander, and bad language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its deeds. ¹⁰ And you all have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being made new in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ There is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free, rather Christ is all and in all!

Matthew 15:10-11, 15-20

¹⁰ Jesus called the crowd, saying to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what enters the mouth that defiles a woman or man rather, it is what exits the mouth that defiles a person."

¹⁵ Then Peter said to him, "Explain to us this parable." ¹⁶ So Jesus said, "Are you all also still lacking understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see everything enters the mouth goes into the stomach and exits into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth comes forth from the heart and this is what defiles a woman or man. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile women and men, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a person."

About *A Women's Lectionary

This year, we will be following *A Women's Lectionary*, a new work of translation, lectionary and commentary written by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney. It is a resource that centers women's stories, chosen with womanist and feminist commitments in mind.