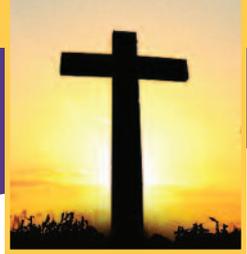


Fifth Sunday in Lent



*Written by the Rev. Iona MacLean
(The Church of Saint David, Halifax)*

- One:** God set the prophet down in a valley of dry bones
Many: asking, "Can these bones live?"
commanding, "Hear the word of the Lord,"
promising, "I will put my spirit in you, you shall live."
- One:** Jesus wept at the tomb of his friend
Many: hearing the grief, "Lord, if you had been here..."
knowing the doubt, "Could not he...?"
commanding life out of death, "Lazarus, come out!"
- One:** We are tempted by hopelessness and despair
Many: in our own pain,
at the world's brokenness,
saying, "Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost."
- One:** Lord, have mercy
Many: Christ, have mercy
One: Lord, have mercy

Let us pray:

Creator God,
we wait for you and in your word we hope.
For with you is steadfast love
and great power to redeem.
Help us to trust you
and to share your resurrection life
with all people and the whole creation.
So may all be raised from despair to hope,
from darkness to light,
from death to life;
through Jesus Christ, who is
the resurrection and the life. Amen.



**Presbyterian
World Service
& Development**

WeRespond.ca

50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1J7
1-800-619-7301 • pwsd@presbyterian.ca

Reducing Costs and Doubling Crops

In a group of mostly women, Komani stands out. The 34-year-old is one of just a few male farmers assembled under the shade of a mango tree in Karonga, Malawi.

Komani is meeting with other members of a village savings group, where farmers come together to share loans to buy farming supplies and meet other needs.

The savings group is part of a PWS&D and Canadian Foodgrains Bank project teaching farmers to grow more food and overcome hunger.

Komani reports that with extra money and training in sustainable farming methods like conservation agriculture, he has doubled his maize crop.

“This area is affected by dry spells,” explains Komani. “With conservation agriculture, we’ve seen a difference. There is a positive outcome with both quality and quantity.”

A champion for women’s empowerment, Komani encourages his wife to decide how to allocate loans from the savings group. When women have more control over household savings, the well-being of the whole family tends to improve.

This Lenten season faithfully respond to equip farmers with the resources they need to combat hunger and care for their families.

PWS&D is a member of

