



The Rev. Alan Sutherland, Rector

August 9, 2009

Pentecost 11 2009

Children's sermon

How many of you collect things?

Do you ever trade them with other kids that save the same stuff?

Older people probably remember baseball cards. When I was a kid we used to play marbles and we used to trade several small ones for the larger ones.

Lots of people trade.

Usually when we trade we get something better than what we have given

Sometimes trading is not just about material things.

The first word that Jesus ever used in his ministry was repent.

Does anybody know what repent means?

When Jesus used it it means to change one's mind.

Sometimes we have to trade what we think for something else. usually what we think leads to what we do and how we are towards other people.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Established in 1847

210 North Main Street Versailles, KY 40383 859.873.3481 info@stjohnsky.com www.stjohnsky.com



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In Paul's letter to the Ephesians, it gives us a list of things that we think or do and asks us to trade them for something else. To repent and change how we are.

Let's think about these

Bitterness-hurt that eats you inside

Wrath- when you want vengeance

Anger-mad at somebody and stay mad

Clamor-want things

Slander-nice to somebody to their face but are mean behind their backs.

Paul asks us to put away all these things and instead be kind to one another

Tenderhearted-not mean

Forgiving one another-not bearing grudges so bitterness wrath and anger live in you.

These are the qualities of a person's life that show if we are imitating god in being people of love. It just does not happen

Sometimes we have to make conscious trades.

Amen

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