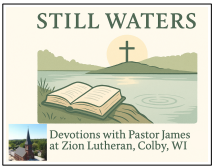
Date: December 7, 2025
Suggested Reading: Romans 12:9–21
Text: Romans 12:18
If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.



The Hard Work of Making Peace

Some days it feels easy to get along with people. Other days, one comment, one look, or one mistake can stir up a storm. The truth is, relationships are where our impatience and pride sometimes show themselves the quickest. When someone hurts us, our first reaction is often anger, defensiveness, or the desire to get even. That reflex reveals how quickly our peace slips away.

God calls us to something deeper. Paul writes that as far as it depends on you, live at peace with others. I cannot control anyone else's behavior, but I can bring my heart under Jesus' care. That is where the Gospel speaks with real comfort. Jesus does not wait for us to behave perfectly before showing mercy. He forgives freely, fully, and repeatedly. He brings peace by taking our sins to the cross and giving us His righteousness in return.

When His mercy fills us, our reactions begin to change. We learn to pause instead of pounce, to bless instead of blame, to speak gently instead of sharply. Peace in relationships is not something we manufacture, it is something Christ creates in us.

Prayer:
Lord Jesus, give us Your peace. Teach us to reflect Your mercy in every relationship. Help us forgive as we have been forgiven. Amen.

Thought for the Day:
Peace grows when mercy leads the way. Today, choose kindness.

Hymn: LSB 349 – Hark the Glad Sound

Zion
PO Box 438
301 N. 2nd St.
Colby, WI 54421
715-223-2166

Pastor James Groleau
Shepherd@JamesPlace.net
Phone: 320-336-8149

ZionColby.org

316-Sermons by Phone:
715-316-4098
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