

Seeking Hope

And Faith and.... Most of All Love.

For in hope we were saved. Now hope that sees for itself is not hope. For who hopes for what one sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance.... From Paul to the Romans

I have great hope, for us. By us, I mean every one of every nationality, every ideology, every race and gender, every woman and every man... everywhere and anyone who still walks this planet we call home.

When I started writing this missive days ago, I knew the title immediately. It was putting together the content that became a pinball in my mind. So I chose wisely and let others do the talking. One was Paul and the other was our dear priest at church Saturday night. They said everything I could think of about seeking Hope... for all of us.

Our priest talked about the state of the world. Unless you've been hiding in a cave or something similar, you know what it is, so I don't have to belabor that point. He talked about all the problems. He talked about all the people, not just Christians but all people of every religion or ideology including those of no religion and even no belief in God. He said it did not matter who or what you are.

As he came close to the end of his sermon he continued the essential thread of his message - truth. As he described all the fake news, irrespective of your political or ideological persuasion, not pinning those promoting fake news on any particular group **but all groups**, he said he discovered something written on tile on a tabletop at Higher Grounds Coffee in Traverse City which he read again and again and again...

In the absence of love, there is no truth.

So in seeking hope, I hope for Love. I hope each and every one of us knows they are loved. I sincerely hope that all of us in turn, Love.

Everyone. Every single person we meet. All the time. Always. For this I hope and pray with all the faith I'm blessed to have... that we simply...

Love

Clement

As Paul said to the people living in Corinth

*Love is patient, love is kind.
It is not jealous, it is not pompous,
It is not inflated, it is not rude,
it does not seek its own interests,
it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,
it does not rejoice over wrongdoing
but rejoices with the truth.
It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.*

And he finished that letter with...

*Love never fails... So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.*

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