

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018

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## **SERMON NOTES**

"Eyes of Peace"

Genesis 1:26-31

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

**God saw...**

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

*Genesis 1:27*

*"We are made for goodness. We are made for love. We are made for friendliness. We are made for togetherness. We are made for all of the beautiful things that you and I know. We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders. ... We all belong to this family, this human family, God's family."*  
Desmond Tutu

**What do you see?**

***The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.***

***1 Samuel 16:7***

***So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.***

***2 Corinthians 5:16***

**The ministry of reconciliation...**

*"As God's ambassadors, we are called to raise the level of discourse and bring healing to those who are hurting and who draw deep lines of division or build tall walls of separation."*

*Deidra Riggs*

## **Additional Notes:**

### **Questions for Further Reflection and Conversation...**

- How do you tend to see people? As made in the image of God, or products of the Fall?
- How do you evaluate the goodness of other people?
- In whom do you have difficulty seeing the image of God?
- What does it mean to be an agent of reconciliation?
- Reflect on the quote by Deidra Riggs. How can you "raise the level of discourse?"

### **Suggested Reading...**

- The Anatomy of Peace, by the Arbinger Institute
- One, Unity in a Divided World, by Diedra Riggs
- God has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for our Time, by Desmond Tutu
- Unafraid and Unashamed: Facing the Future of United Methodism, by Wil Cantrell