



Lent is a time to review my life
with its all its failings and blessings,
a time to take a personal inventory
of how I have loved or failed to love God
and all those whose paths cross my mine...

Sometimes I forget that the people along my path
are as fragile or even more fragile than I am...

If I look to my past
I may remember those I've hurt, saddened
and even betrayed
by my haste, my selfishness, my carelessness...

More often than not,
I truly didn't intend any harm
but nonetheless my self-interest and neglect
bruised and burdened others...

*Lord, if there are ways for me to make amends,
show me how and give me courage
to say what I need to say
and do what I need to do,
sooner than later...*

*If the time and circumstances for making amends
have long since passed me by,
hear my prayer for those I've hurt...*

*Open my eyes and ears, my mind and heart
to those around me now, Lord:
wake me to their presence and their needs
and keep gentle all the ways
my life touches theirs...*

*Nudge me to take the first step
towards making peace
in my family, my neighborhood, at work
and at school...*

Give me a merciful and forgiving heart...

*Help me remember how much, how often,
how fully and how freely you have forgiven me...*

*And forgive me my trespasses
as I forgive those who trespass against me...*

Amen.

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