



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

June 8, 2025 – Walls

Bible Verse for the Week

“For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.” (Ephesians 2:14, NRSV)

The Collect for Pentecost

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.
(p. 227, Book of Common Prayer)

Good Fences Make Good Neighbors?

Robert Frost’s “Mending Wall” asks us to consider a paradox: how “good fences” both divide and connect. The poem tells of the annual ritual of two neighbors repairing the stone wall that separates their properties. The speaker wonders why there is a wall because there are no livestock on either property and that nature seems to not like walls: “Something there is that doesn’t love a wall.” But the neighbor firmly asserts, “Good fences make good neighbors”

Our Walls and Fences Today

A recent New York Times editorial (“Good Fences Still Make Good Neighbors?” June 2, 2025) quoted Robert Frost’s classic poem to point out the boundaries modern homeowners erect between themselves and their neighbors. The article uses the poem as a way to examine how fences, both literal and figurative, shape relationships within communities.

In modern times, the Bible invites us to reconsider the physical and emotional walls we build around ourselves. While boundaries can protect and describe, they also risk isolating us from our closest family and friends. Both scripture and poetry suggest that true community grows not from high fences, but from trust, shared purpose, and the courage to dismantle barriers that no longer serve us. The challenge remains: to know when a wall is necessary, and when it’s time to let it crumble.

“Mending Wall” can be read at <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44266/mending-wall>.

God’s Peace. - Vance

Prayer box: Give thanks for the healing of your friends and family. Let us pray for healing for Carol, Bruce, Patty, Debbie, John C., Holland, Steve, Brenda, and Mia. Pray for all who are struggling in life, including Dash. Pray for all those suffering from natural disasters. Pray for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia, and the United States. **Lord, hear our prayers!**