



JAMES BAY United Church

Opening Doors to God's Love



Reverend Karen Dickey
James Bay United Church
250-384-5821

Lent is that Season,
(if we know anything about it)
associated with giving something up all
for the sake of becoming a better person.

But in recent years, I've been deeply drawn to another approach
to the season, thanks to Mary Luti, who asks:

*“What if this year your hopes were greater, your prayers more
daring? What if this year you gave yourself up, not just chocolate,
beer or Facebook? What if this Lent you invited God to speak not
so much to your behaviours as to your heart? And what if in that
conversation you discovered that God wants you not to be better
so much as to be enraptured, not to be good so much as to be lost
... in the beauty of God's mercy, God's justice, God's passions.”*

Years earlier, Alice Walker gave us a glimpse of the same thing
when out of Shug's mouth we hear *“I think it pisses God off if you
walk by the colour purple in a field somewhere and don't notice
it. People think pleasing God is all God cares about.*

*But any fool living in the world
can see it always trying
to please us back.”*

As the wonder of Spring in all
its glory unfolds around us,
may you know yourself
**‘pleased back,’
even enraptured!**

