Justice and Mercy Pastor Micah Greiner St Peter, Arlington Heights

Don't you love it when you see someone who has done something wrong get what they deserve?

Have you ever spent time plotting out how to get revenge on someone who hurt you?

I think we feel this way because deep within us is a longing for justice. We don't see enough of it in the world, and so we long for things that are wrong to be made right.

But have you ever noticed how quickly our desire for justice or revenge can turn ugly and even violent? We see it all the time in movies...and we feel it inside our own bones!

Knowing that about us, Jesus invites us to something even better: Mercy.

He says, "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful." (Luke 6:35-36)

When it comes to our relationship with God, we do not want justice, for that would mean we would get what we deserve for all of our sins. Instead, we want mercy, by which God sets us free from ourselves. And God shows us an abundance of mercy in Christ, calling us to then show mercy to all.

How can you show mercy today?