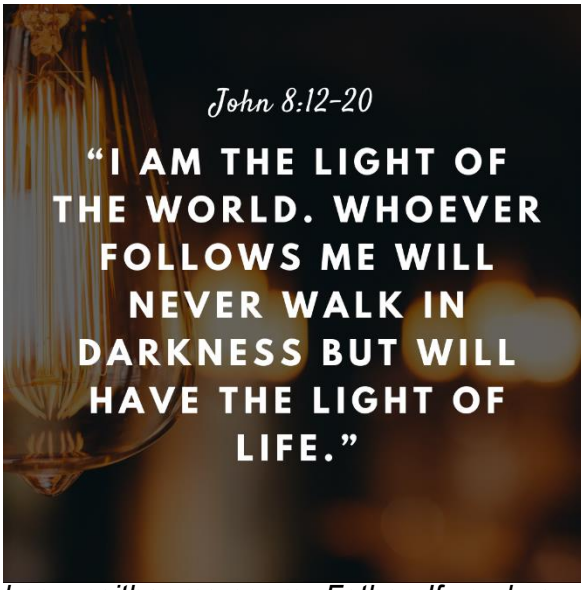
March 16, 2021 Lenten Devotional
John 8:12-20 - "I Am the Light of the World"
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Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' Then the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.' Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgement is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.' Then they said to him, 'Where is your Father?' Jesus answered, 'You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.' He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come. -John 8:12-20

Reflection

When Jesus speaks in John 8 saying "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" I like to take a moment to stop and think about those words. The immediate feelings one may have after reading this verse include comfort, strength, and even optimism. For myself, I get a sense of these feelings when I read this passage and I look back on times when I was younger and I felt lost and confused. During this time in my life, my faith journey had been an absolute rollercoaster and I felt that at times, I was walking around in a pitch black room, stumbling over and running into everything. I was just about to enter college after having a summer working two terrible jobs, knowing I had almost no friends going to Virginia Tech with me, and I was also coming off of the worst breakup I've ever had. Fortunately for me, once I came to Virginia Tech, I was stumbling in the dark, and I managed to find myself a flashlight. This flashlight for me was The Well Lutheran Campus Ministry. Being an active college student in the church can be difficult because of how so many students put religion on the backburner when reaching college. However, I was able to stumble on this incredible community of faithful individuals who have been the light leading me back on the path of my faith journey. This community has been the single most influential part of my young adult life, and in a time where it can be hard for many to continue their faith journeys, I have my trusty flashlight to be there right with me the entire way.