



Faith Walk 2021

Welcome

Believe...Wonder...Lament...Celebrate

Poem

If you would enter
into the wilderness,
do not begin
without a blessing.

Do not leave
without hearing
who you are:
Beloved,
named by the One
who has traveled this path
before you.

Do not go
without letting it echo
in your ears,
and if you find
it is hard
to let it into your heart,
do not despair.
That is what
this journey is for.

I cannot promise
this blessing will free you
from danger,
from fear,
from hunger
or thirst,
from the scorching
of sun
or the fall
of the night.

Beloved Is Where We Begin

But I can tell you
that on this path
there will be help.

I can tell you
that on this way
there will be rest.
I can tell you
that you will know
the strange graces
that come to our aid
only on a road
such as this,
that fly to meet us
bearing comfort
and strength,
that come alongside us
for no other cause
than to lean themselves
toward our ear
and with their
curious insistence
whisper our name:
Beloved.
Beloved.
Beloved.

by Jan Richardson

Prayer

**Let my eyes
be your eyes,
sharing compassion,
warmth and love.**

**Let my hands
be your hands,
bringing healing
with their touch.**

**Let my ears
be your ears,
listening where
there is need.**

**Let my words
be your words,
bringing comfort
joy and peace.**

Hear

Psalm 139

Reflections

Faithwalk

“Child of God, you are marked with the cross of Christ forever.”

That God’s mercy may be known in your work,
receive the + cross on your hands.

That God may dwell within you by faith,
receive the + cross on your heart.

That you may sing the praise of Christ, the joy of the church,
receive the + cross on your lips.

That you may see the light of Christ illuminating your way,
receive the + cross on your eyes.

That you may continue to walk Christ’s path,
receive the + cross on your feet.

That you may hear the gospel of Christ, the word of life,
receive the + cross on your ears.

Pray

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) service will be held on Sunday, October 31 at 1:00 pm in the Minneapolis campus Sanctuary.

- Please arrive 20 minutes early to be seated together as family.
- Confirmation service will be livestreamed on Bethlehem's YouTube channel. Tune in to blctcmn.co/stream, or link directly from Bethlehem's website.
- If you have a specific role for the Affirmation of Baptism service, please stay seated.



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