

The Garden Song Peter, Paul and Mary

*Inch by inch, row by row, I'm gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow
Someone warm them from below 'til the rain comes tumbling down*

Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones, we are made of dreams and bones
I feel the need to grow my own 'cause the time is close at hand
Grain for grain, sun and rain, I'll find my way in nature's chain
I tune my body and my brain to the music of the land

So plant your rows straight and long, temper them with prayer and song
Mother earth can keep you strong if you give her love and care
Now an old crow watching hungrily from his perch in yonder tree
In my garden I'm as free as that feathered thief up there

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Spiritual Gardening



Our prayer is characterized
by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.

Thank You For Joining Us!

Prayer Leader:

Betsy Nero
July 21, 2015

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To Ponder: "Spiritual Gardening" Norman Wirzba

Gardening is never simply about gardens. It is work that reveals the meaning and character of humanity, and is an exercise and demonstration of who we take ourselves and creation to be. It is the most direct and practical site where we can learn the art and discipline of being creatures. Here we concretely and practically see how we relate to the natural world, to other creatures, and ultimately to the Creator. We discover whether we are prepared to honor these relations by nurture and care and celebration, or despise and abuse them. Gardens are a microcosm of the universe in which all the living and nonliving elements of life meet, elements ranging from geological formations and countless biochemical reactions to human inventiveness and age-old traditions about cuisine and beauty. When and how we garden gives expression to how we think we fit in the world. Through the many ways we produce and consume food, we bear witness to our ability or failure to gratefully and humbly receive creation as a gift from God. .. To garden is to unseat oneself as the center of primary importance, and to instead turn one's life into various forms of service that will strengthen and maintain the many memberships that make up the garden...

Gardening, besides being a practical, life-nurturing task, is also always a spiritual activity. In it people attempt to make visible and tasty what is good, beautiful, and even holy. Every act of gardening presupposes and embodies a way of relating to creation, a way that invariably invokes moral and spiritual decisions...Our aim must be to develop into good gardeners, gardeners who work harmoniously among the flows of life. This means that besides vegetables, flowers, and fruit, gardeners are themselves undergoing a spiritual cultivation into something beautiful and sympathetic and healthy. A caring, faithful, and worshipping humanity is one of the garden's most important crops.

from Garden Blessings by June Cotner

Reading: "Gardens" Thelma J. Palmer

Gardens are more than hooded flowers,
tempting fruit and living trees.
They are the birds that sing and fly in them,
the wing-eyed butterflies, the golden bees.

They include the sky with sun and moon and stars,
the rain and snow;
they are the earth with captured light
from heaven where plants and people grow.

A garden is a universe that whispers soft and vernal,
"As it is above, so it is below."
Waking, blooming, sleeping, waking up again,
gardens are eternal: they teach us all we need to know.



Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...