

Thankful Josh Groban

Some days we forget to look around us
Some days we can't see the joy that surrounds us
So caught up inside ourselves
We take when we should give:

So for tonight we pray for what we know can be
And on this day we hope for what we still can't see
It's up to us to be the change
And even though we all can still do more
There's so much to be thankful for

Look beyond ourselves there's so much sorrow
It's way too late to say I'll cry tomorrow
Each of us must find our truth so long overdue:

Even with our differences
there is a place we're all connected
Each of us can find each other's light...

So for tonight we pray for what we know can be
And on this day we hope for what we still can't see
It's up to us to be the change
And even though this world needs so much more:
There's so much to be thankful for.

Thank You For Joining Us!

Prayer Leader:

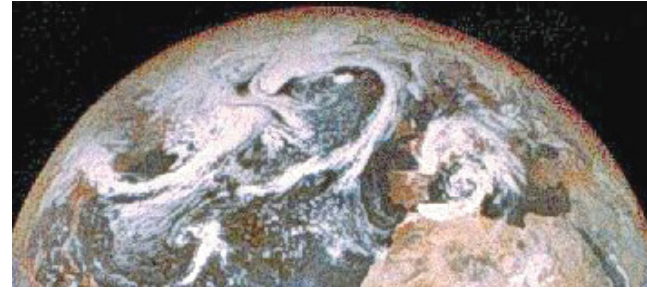
Carol Kandiko, CSA
11/17/15

Centering Space:

14812 Lake Ave | Lakewood
www.centeringspace.org
216.228.7451
centeringspace@srssofcharity.org

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When the giver receives
and the receiver gives,
the circle of love can grow
as wide as the world.



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.

To Ponder: Henri Nouwen, *With Burning Hearts*

The community of faith is the place where many stories about the way of Jesus are being told. These stories can be very different from each other. They might even seem to conflict. But as we keep listening attentively to the Spirit manifesting itself through many people, in words as well as in silence, through confrontation as well as invitation, in gentleness as well as firmness, with tears as well as smiles—then we can gradually discern that we belong together, as one body knitted together by the Spirit of Jesus.

In the Eucharist we are asked to leave the table and go to our friends to discover with them that Jesus is truly alive and calls us together to become a new people—a people of the resurrection.

Forming a community with family and friends, building a body of love, shaping a new people of the resurrection: all of this is not just so that we can live a life protected from the dark forces that dominate our world; it is, rather, to enable us to proclaim together to all people, young and old, white and black, poor and rich, that death does not have the last word, that hope is real and God is alive...

The Eucharist is always mission. The Eucharist that has freed us from our paralyzing sense of loss and revealed to us that the Spirit of Jesus lives within us empowers us to go out into the world and to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, liberty to the captives, and to proclaim that God has shown again his favor to all people. But we are not sent out alone; we are sent with our brothers and sisters who also know that Jesus lives within them.

The movement flowing from the Eucharist is the movement from communion to community to ministry. Our experience of communion first sends us to our brothers and sisters to share with them our stories and build with them a body of love. Then, as community, we can move in all directions and reach out to all people.

Life lived Eucharistically is always a life of mission. It belongs to the essence of the Eucharistic life to make this circle of love grow.

Reading: Gerard Thomas Straub: *Thoughts of a Blind Beggar*

Thank you

During the Eucharistic celebration we say,
“It is fitting and right to give thanks.”
Thankfulness is the door to the Kingdom of God.
The first and last words of our day
should be “thank you.”
All life is a gift from God,
which we in turn must give away.

The two most important words
of any prayer are: thank you.

Gratitude to God unleashes enough divine energy
to move mountains.

A grateful heart is a joyful heart.
And a joyful heart is a creative heart,
finding new ways to give itself away.

Sharing...
a word...
a phrase...
a reflection...