

## You Set Me Free Sandy Patti

There've been times in my life you've opened doors  
They weren't what I was hoping for  
So I walked right by them, I didn't even try them  
there've been dreams I forgot and dreams I let die  
unnoticed sunsets in front of my eyes  
I just couldn't see them; I thought I didn't need them  
sure there are things I'd do different and yet  
grace gives me days where I simply forget

Cause you set me free to run through fields of laughter  
and to sing as though I have no yesterdays  
You set me free from my befores and afters  
from a debt I know I'll never pay When you see me free

There've been chances to love that I've ignored  
mercies I found I couldn't afford  
I'm sure I would've shown them If I would have know then  
how we all play a part in each other's lives  
and there's more to the game than winning the prize  
so much I want to try now I feel like I could fly now  
sure there are things I'd do different and yet  
Grace gives me days where I simply forget

Father, you father me ever so patiently  
you give me wings to fly  
when you set me free  
To fly, to soar to places I've not been before  
the boundaries of humanity cannot contain what you set free

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### Thank You For Joining Us!

#### Prayer Leader:

Carol Kandiko, CSA  
9/8/15

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# Our Lives are the Presence of Sacred Mystery



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: Bruce Sanguin

What is the increase in faith that we are called to undergo today? Jesus uses the metaphor of the mustard seed, which is apt in that it's so small and seeming insignificant—the way many of us feel—and yet it is power-packed with dormant potential. ... Just as a tiny mustard seed contains the entire DNA of its species, we are the seeds that contain the image of God as Love and Creativity. We are stamped with this divine image, and within us is the entire blueprint of the universe, the Earth, and the human species. Under the right conditions, the hard shell that keeps that potential both protected and locked down will break open, and we will realize our potential as centers of the emerging future.

Faith in this sense, is closer to a knowing than it is to a belief in anything. The power of a seed doesn't lie in what it believes. Neither does a seed will a new future into existence. It is the future—present in all its dormant potential—waiting to be released. *Plant yourself in the right conditions: a community to help you remember this expansive identity, the capacity to ponder mystery, a regular spiritual practice of reorienting yourself in this bigger identity, and consciously imagining yourself becoming the presence of Love and Creativity in your daily life. These conditions are the nutrients that will crack open the shell and release the latent potential within the seed.*

Faith becomes more of a verb than a noun. As dynamic centers of Creativity and Love, we “faith” new futures into reality.

...we begin to awaken to the possibility that we are an occasion of that same power and presence. Our lives are the presence of Sacred Mystery yearning for flesh-and-blood expression. We see that in how we live each moment, in the choice to open our hearts to love when instinctively we want to close them, or when we open our ears to listen when we just want to speak *our* truth, or when we allow compassion to flood through us. In these moments, we are the future present.

## Reading: William Cleary *Prayers to an Evolutionary God*

We know,  
Holy Compassionate Mystery,  
that your involvement in the evolutionary process is total,  
and so,  
even in the random and chance events  
that often bring about so much human pain,  
you do not stand aside  
but rather are with us in the storm,  
urging quietly that we do not lose heart,  
that all will be well,  
urging that we trust you  
and your unfolding plan of love and creativity,  
a system larger and more ambitious  
than we can begin to imagine  
but in which we—in our surrender—are a crucial part.

Be with us in our vital energies  
as well as in our devout submission.  
Let it be so.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...