

## Love is Everywhere      John Denver

*Love is everywhere, I see it  
You are all that you can be, go on and be it  
Life is perfect, I believe it  
Come and play the game with me*

Open yourself to the first celebration  
Open your eyes to the joy and pain  
Life is the fruit of your own creation  
Every new birth is a soul regained

Drinking my life from a silver fountain  
Sweet water running to the cold salt sea  
Old man moon on a white-top mountain  
Sound of the wind singing dreams for me

Follow your heart like a flying stallion  
Race with the sun to the edge of night  
Form your truth like a gold medallion  
Dance in the circle of the love and the light

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Come and play the game with me*

Prayer Leader:  
Betsy Nero  
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May a More Beautiful  
World be the  
Desire of our Hearts

Charlotte Zalot, OSB



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.

**Renew · Refresh · Refocus**

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## To Ponder:

*Bridges to Contemplative Living*  
with Thomas Merton book seven

(Session eight: Dying as a Catalyst for Continuing Transformation)

The central task of contemplative living is what Cistercian Abbot John Eudes Bamberger calls an “inner remaking of the heart.” Our vocation is to become our truest, best and most beautiful selves. Merton told himself that he had “to be the person I am to have the particular place and function I have, to be myself in the sense of choosing to tend toward what God wants me to be and to orient my whole life to being the person God loves.”

A daily dying is the catalyst for personal relationships to God and neighbor (Martin Luther). Dying to what hampers our lives in communities keeps us evolving in the Spirit so that we leave behind what is good in order to embrace what is better and to act in ways that align our visions to God’s vision, that we love one another.

## Reading:

*For Beauty* Charlotte Zalot, OSB

God of Creation,  
open our eyes, our ears,  
our minds, our hearts,  
our bodies, our bones,  
to the beauty that is within and without.

Help us not be blind  
to the goodness that surrounds us  
or deaf to the sounds that resonate inside us.

You reveal yourself daily  
through the radiant splendor of your creation  
and the design of your heart.

May we be mindful of our responsibility  
to not only appreciate magnificence  
but to co-create it as well.

May a more beautiful world  
be the challenge of our peace-making

## Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...