City of God Dan Schutte

Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep! A new day is dawning for all those who weep. The people in darkness have seen a great light. The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

Let us build the city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing.
For the Lord our light and our love
Has turned the night into day.

We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day. The One who has loved us has brightened our way.

God is light; in God there is no darkness. Let us walk in his light, His children one and all. O comfort my people; make gentle your words. Proclaim to my city the day of her birth.

> Prayer Leader: Cheryl Keehner, CSA 1 / 5 / 2021

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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: source unknown

You are the same person you were yesterday and yet you are also more than you have ever been before. You are changing on a moment to moment basis, and yet at some level you remain the person you have always been. Stop for a moment and consider what a beautiful paradox it is... part of moving ahead successfully is the ability to stay anchored to who you are and to what you know is actually true. You are fixed and you are flexible. Isn't this an exquisite contradiction?

from Thomas Merton. "Christian Humanism" in Loving and Living

There is in each of us an instinct for newness, for renewal, for liberation of creative power. We seek to awaken within ourselves a force which really changes our lives from within. And yet the same instinct tells us that this change is a recovery of that which is deepest, most original, most personal in ourselves. To be born again is not to become somebody else, but to become "our true selves."

Reading: Edwina Gateley "Silent God" from *Psalms of a Laywoman*

This is my prayer – That though I may not see, I be aware Of the Silent God Who stands by me.

That, though I may not feel, I be aware
Of the Mighty Love
Which doggedly follows me.

That though I may not respond,
I be aware
That God—My Silent, Mighty God,
Waits each day.
Quietly, hopefully, persistently,
Waits each day and through each night
For me,
For me, alone.

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