

## Love Beyond All Telling – Marty Haugen

Praise to you who made creation,  
You who shaped the skies and Earth;  
You named us as your children  
and carried us to birth.  
You are near to all who suffer,  
You are one with every fear;  
You know our every sorrow  
and share our every tear.

You are love beyond all telling  
You are life beyond all death;  
formed to be your children from the start –  
You carry us forever  
in the space beneath your heart

To the ones who walk in shadow,  
to the ones who live in fear,  
we sing a God of mercy,  
a God who holds us near;  
who is rest for all the weary,  
who is hope when hope is gone;  
new freedom for the captive,  
our story and our song.

Prayer Leader:

Carol Kandiko, CSA  
9 / 13 / 2022

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## Presence Just Beyond our Grasp



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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An Interfaith Ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine

## To Ponder: Mary Beth Ingham, CSJ

*Late have I loved thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved Thee! ... You called and cried out and burst in upon my deafness; you shone forth and glowed and drove away my blindness; you sent forth your fragrance and I drew in my breath and now I pant for you; I have tasted and now I hunger and thirst; You touched me and I was inflamed with a desire for your peace.* St. Augustine

Augustine's classic praise of divine beauty and its connection to his own journey of transformation into love offers an important starting point for a reflection upon our own original inspiration, our own spiritual beginnings. While philosophers tell us that Good is the object of our love, this transcendental can appear conceptual, abstract, and distant. By contrast, Beauty reveals the heart of an affective experience of God. More personal and immediate, the experience of Beauty takes us up into its reality, as if in a loving embrace. Our initial experience is an emotional one, a lodestone drawing our hearts and minds beyond ourselves into a mysterious dimension we sense internally. An experience of presence just beyond our grasp.

## Reading: Joyce Rupp, Prayer to Sophia

You can fit into the tiniest space of my life.  
No place is too small for growth.  
You slip into my passages of thought.  
You glide through my relationships.  
You flow between the creases of my work.  
You pass through my many emotions.  
You sail into my night dreams.  
You squeeze into my busyness.  
You nestle in my solitude.  
Every part of my life has space enough for you

Sharing. . .

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...

### Reminders:

- Come on time
- Honor the silence
- Share **briefly** from **personal experience**
- Listen to each other
- Discussion (cross talk) is for after the hour of prayer.