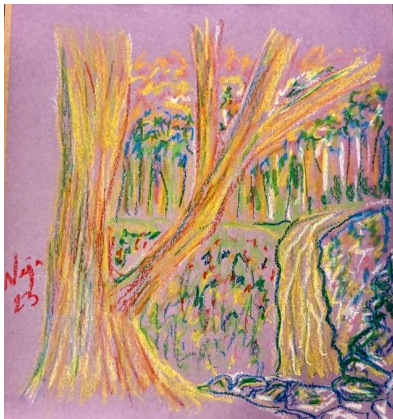


How could anyone- Shaina Noll

How could anyone ever tell you
you were anything less than beautiful
how could anyone ever tell you
you were less than whole

how could anyone fail to notice
that your loving is a miracle
how deeply you're connected to my soul

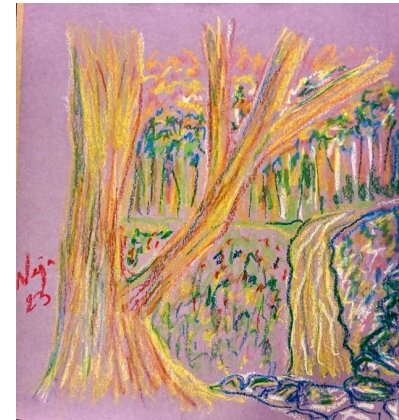


Prayer Leader:

Naja Yazbek

7/11/2023

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Miracles



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.

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

To Ponder: Joan Chittister,
The Radical Christian Life: A Year with St. Benedict

If there is anything to remember about Benedict of Nursia, it is that he did not purport to be a wonder worker.

One day Benedict was working in the fields when one of the local farmers came running to the monastery carrying the dead body of his only son. Beside himself with grief, the father begged Benedict to bring his son back to life. Benedict was reluctant even to try. "Stand back, Brothers," he said to the monastics there. "Only the Holy Fathers, the Apostles, raise from the dead." The message was a clear one: our work is to be mindful, perhaps, but our work is not to be miracle workers.

And then Benedict asked the question that gives us pause. "Why," he said to the distraught farmer, "are you trying to avoid what befalls us all?" Death, he implied starkly, is a part of life.

But the farmer would not relent. This boy was his past and his future, the center of his world. Enraged, he swore at Benedict and refused to leave until Benedict did what he could to reverse his life's tragedy.

And Benedict understood. He threw himself down beside the boy, prayed his heart out, and the boy stirred to life again.

It is a story of human suffering and human response that is repeated every day of our lives. It is not our job to work miracles but it is our task to try. Death is indeed a necessary part of life but everything that looks dead is not and, in fact, may really be the beginning of new life in us.

Reminders:

Come on time... Better yet, Come Early!
Honor the silence during prayer
Share briefly from your personal experience
Listen to each other

Reading: Matthew Fox, Christian Mystics
Julian of Norwich

"God showed me in my palm a little thing round as a ball about the size of a hazelnut. I looked at it with the eye of my understanding and asked myself: "What is this thing?"

And I was answered: "It is everything that is created."

I wondered how it could survive since it seemed so little it could suddenly disintegrate into nothing.

The answer came: "It endures and ever will endure, because God loves it." And so everything has being because of God's love."

Sharing. . .

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...