

April 25, 2017

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, the Risen Christ!

It is my sincere prayer that each of us learned and savored anew the mystery and wonders that was done and is being by God in all the Holy Weeks of our lives. Our earthly life is a sacred gift that prepares us for our eternal life with our Lord.

I have become convinced that all too often we neglect the amazing beauty that surrounds us every day. One of the workshops I attended while on Sabbatical was Preaching on Creation. So get ready for some exciting worship services! The topics selected for this four week series in May are: Forests, Oceans, Storms, and the Universe (Cosmos). John Sokol and I have been diligently working on the special music for many weeks now. It is my particular prayer that we will all gain a new and richer understanding of what God is doing all around us every day - whether we notice it or not.

I am as guilty as anyone is - in that when I get in my car I am going somewhere. My focus is on my destination, thinking about what needs to happen, what I need to encourage, on and on. I rarely take advantage of the gift this traveling time could bless me with - not noticing the soaring hawk, the wild flowers beside the roadway, much less the deer gently grazing on the hillside. My loss. Hopefully, being engaged with this series, we will find correction and with correction comes change and transformation ever drawing us closer to the Risen Christ.

The Turning Dance – John van der Laar
How much we struggle to turn, God;
even when we feel the pain of the road we're on,
we find it hard to admit it, and to change course.
But, if we will just begin to dance, to stop our single-minded marching
and allow the voice in the wilderness to call the tune,
our dance will turn us from despair to hope,
from destruction to creativity, from emptiness and death to abundant life.
And so we pray,
for the leaders and the followers to dance together
for the able and the disabled to dance together
for the needy and the satisfied to dance together
for the whole and the broken to dance together
for the believer and the sceptic to dance together
for all creation and every creature to dance together
until the eternal dance turns us all and brings us in step with You.

Pastor Peggy