

August 7, 2016
Questions for Personal Reflection
Rev. Alan Claassen

Opening Prayer

Spirit of life and hope, we sense your presence in this place.
Awaken us again to the mysteries that humble us, the realities that orient us, the beauty that informs us, the fellowship that sustains us, and the creativity that heightens and deepens our living, that we may give ourselves in honesty and openness to the larger life before us. May it be so.

- Coot Wells

Reflection Question

Where have you found a place, community or companion that has helped you awaken your inner ability to give yourself in love and authenticity?

Food for Thought

For a New Beginning (selected verses)
John O'Donohue

In out of the way places of the heart
Where your thoughts never think to wander
This beginning has been quietly forming
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.
Though your destination is not clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is one with your life's desire.
Awaken your spirit to adventure
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm
For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

Reflection Questions

- What would it mean for you to unfurl yourself at this moment?
- Quietly ask, What is the beginning that has been quietly forming?
- Where do you find a sanctuary for your soul that senses the awaiting world?

Scripture Reading: Luke 12:32-36

Do not be afraid, small, little flock, for it is your Creator's good pleasure to give you the kin-dom.
Sell your possessions, and give an act of mercy. Make bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in the heavens, where a thief does not approach nor a moth corrupt.
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for her as soon as she comes and knocks.

Reflection Questions

- What threshold is the Creator inviting you to cross at this moment?
- Play with the connection between “the soul that senses the world that awaits you” and the “Creator's good pleasure to give you the kin-dom.”
- What are you waiting for? How do you prepare for that?