

## Readings for Sunday, July 25, 2021

From *Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment, and Underlying Meaning of Ordinary Words*  
by David Whyte

The hope for unconditional love is the hope for a different life than the one we have been given. Love is the conversation between possible, searing disappointment and a profoundly imagined sense of arrival and fulfillment; how we shape that conversation is the touchstone of our ability to love in the real inhabited world.

Excerpts from Jeremiah 31  
as interpreted by John Philip Newell in *Celtic Treasure*

You shall come back from the land of your enemy.

There is hope for the future.

There is promise for your children.

I have loved you with an everlasting love  
and will continue my faithfulness to you.

The city shall be rebuilt.

Again you will make music and sing.

Again you will plant vineyards and enjoy the fruit.

Your life shall become like a watered garden  
like a deep spring whose waters never fail.

Then shall your young women sing and dance  
and young men and old shall be merry.

For the One who makes the sun shine by day  
and the moon and stars glisten by night

will turn your mourning into joy  
and give you gladness instead of sorrow.