

Altars in the World

8:45 a.m. + October 10, 2021

He who is aching in every limb, worn out by the effort of a day of work, that is to say a day when he has been subjected to matter, bears the reality of the universe in his flesh like a thorn. The difficulty for him is to look and to love. If he succeeds, he loved the Real.

Simone Weil

Resting in God "I Am Here"

Before creation's dawn, there was darkness filled with love. Love that called forth all existence into life. Love that spoke into the dark. Till the darkness blazed with light. Love that filled all of creation with a song.

I am here like a treasure hidden deep within this world. Every river, every mountain points the way. I am here in creation – in the darkness, in the light. Come and find me. Come and know me. Come and love.

Meditating on Scripture

Genesis 2:7, 15

One day the Eternal God scooped dirt out of the ground, sculpted it into the shape we call human, breathed the breath that gives life into the nostrils of the human, and the human became a living soul.

The Eternal God placed the newly made man in the garden of Eden in order to work the ground and care for it.

Remembering our Beginnings

"We Are Grounded in You"

Every mountain points the way to you. Every clump of earth recalls how we were made. Every rock sings out songs of faithfulness, And reminds us all that is true: We are grounded in you.

Connected by Circumstance

Song of Response

"Even Though the Day Be Laden"

Even though the day be laden,
And my task dreary, and my strength small,
A song keeps singing in my heart.
For I know that I am thine,
I am part of Thee, Thou art kin to me,
And all my times, all my times are in Thy hands.

Connected by Choice

Song of Response

"Even Though the Day Be Laden"

from Psalms for Praying, 90, Nan Merrill

Offering Ourselves

Eternal and Immortal One, You have been our refuge in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, before You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, You are the Alpha and the Omega.

For our days on Earth are a mystery, a searching for You, a yearning for the great Mystery to make itself known.

The years pass and soon the Harvest is at hand, a time to reap the fruit of one's life.

Who has lived with integrity?

Who will reflect the Light?

Who can bear the radiant beams of Love?

Who has reverenced the Counselor, and opened their hearts to the Spirit of Truth?

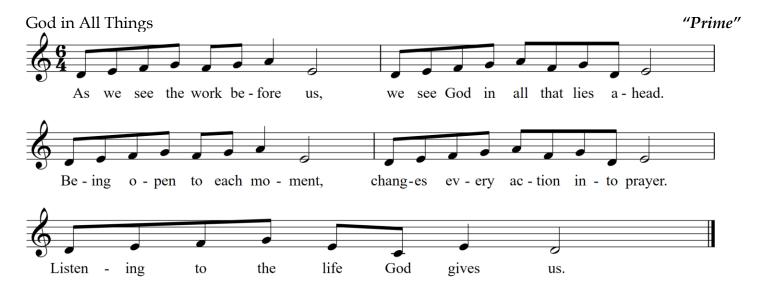
Teach us, O Beloved, to honor each day that we may have a heart of wisdom.

Resting in God "I Am Here"

I am here like a treasure hidden deep within this world. Every river, every mountain points the way. I am here in creation: in the darkness. In the light. Come and find me, come and know me, come and love.

Resting in the Silence

During these few minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. Simply be here now. Descend into this silence. There is nothing you need to do. Just let go. Relax. Sense your body. Breathe deeply. If it helps, use a sacred word to help you descend into this silence (such as Beloved, Mercy, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit) or a breath prayer, such as "Here" (inhale) "I am" (exhale).



Communion

Praying for All Work

For those who work with their families.

For those who look for work.

For those who seek to find their next meal.

For those who help others find their next meal.

For those who care for their homes.

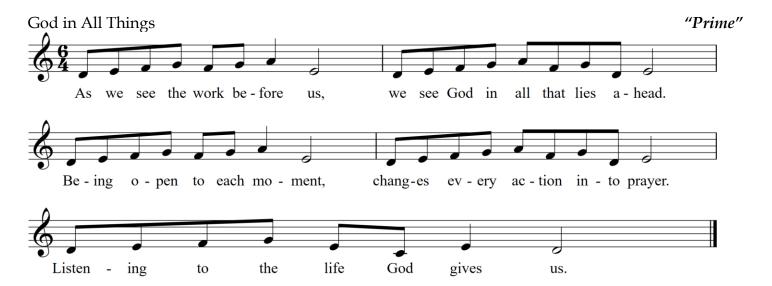
For those who give away their time freely.

For those who work to live.

For those who live to work.

All of us are given work.

Let us thank the Lord no matter what the work.



Receiving a Good Word

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