

EPICLESIS VIRTUAL CHAPTER HOUSE

Prayer and Eucharist, Thursday, October 24, 2024

Celtic Daily Prayer Book 1, Finan Readings, October 24

Psalm 136:23-24 † Zephaniah 3:17 † Romans 8:35-39

Daily Reading

Prayer is not the purpose of life. The purpose of life is a mystery, in the proper sense. We can never fully define it, we can only walk around it and describe it from different perspectives, hint, make analogies

It's as if we were a nut in a shell which has been tossed into the shoreless ocean of God. The shell has to be cracked or eroded or worn away or battered away because it separates us from his love. God's love is always there. It doesn't depend on our goodness, but on his nature. He couldn't stop loving us without changing his nature, which is to be love.

Or we could say that we are born within walls, and the purpose of life is to let them be battered down, carried off stone by stone, so that his tender and glorious love may come pouring into every cranny of our being . . .

Or we are like something fragmented and dispersed, without a center or any active force to bring us into harmony; and God has breathed into us such a force, a dynamism which will gather our scattered pieces and make us whole. Our entire being is in the process of such a whole-ing

The important point in all of this is that we begin with the gift. We begin with this mysterious whole-ing force within, reaching out to embrace every faculty. We have been given to. Our life is a reaching out in gratitude to embrace the gift.

--Miriam Pollard, *The Laughter of God-At Ease with Prayer*, p. 68-69

Meditation

I am calmed because I know You love me.
Because You love me, nothing can move me from my peace.
Because You love me, I am as one to whom all good has come.

--From *Hebridean Altars*