



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast for August 8, 2021

Scripture for This Sunday:

- 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 – the death of Absalom.
- Psalm 130 - “Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord.”
- Ephesians 4:25-5:2 – Admonitions on behavior to “be imitators of God.”
- John 6:24-35 – Jesus preaches on “I am the bread of life.”

“The Signature of God is in All of Creation”

In a short three-minute video we hear inspiring words from The New Seminary’s Executive Director Rev. Dr. Jay Speights (James Speights). Recounting a quote from Howard Thurman Rev. Dr. Jay gives us solid food for reflection this week (see link to video below): *“The signature of God is in all of creation.”*

We need to spend some alone-time to fully digest what this means to us, not just “holy people” on Sundays, but to every day folks like us. This call to a spiritual mindfulness refocuses our attention on the everyday, ordinary people, places, things, and activities we encounter. What if we looked at every small task we do and every person we meet or every plant and animal we see with an openness which allows us to see and take in God’s signature in all things?

In Howard Thurman’s words:

There is magic all around us—in the rocks, the trees, and the minds of men...and he who strikes the rock aright may find them where he will...There can be no thing that does not have within it the signature of God, the Creator of life, the living substance out of which all particular manifestations arise...This is the cosmic Christ, that which connects everything in the heavens and on the earth.

May we, like Thurman, lead a contemplative life, seeing the cosmos as a community and celebrating humanity’s power to see that holy connection. (Link to Rev. Dr. Speights video: <https://youtu.be/UZvZLx3LhLM>)

Collect for this Sunday:

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please offer prayers for . . . Wanda’s recovery; Rita’s recovery; continued prayers for those hurting from wildfires in the Western US and Canada; prayers for those suffering and grieving during the pandemic.