

Daily Disciplines

Devotion:

We prepare to witness a mystery. More to the point, we prepare to witness *the* Mystery, the *God made flesh*. While it is good that we seek to know the Holy One, it is probably not so good to presume that we ever complete the task, to suppose that we ever know anything about him except what he has *made known* to us. The prophet Isaiah helps us to remember our limitations when he writes, "To whom then will you compare me..." says the Holy One..." Think of it like this: he cannot be exhausted by our ideas about him, but he is everywhere suggested. He cannot be comprehended, but he can be touched. His coming in the flesh- this Mystery we prepare to glimpse again – confirms that he is to be touched.

--Scott Cairns, in *God with Us*

Journal Prompt:

Read and meditate on the following passage. Then journal what stirs within you as you sit in silent reflection.

Let us trust life because this night must lead to light. Let us trust life because we do not have to live it alone. God lives it with us.

--Jesuit priest Alfred Delp

Prayer Prompt:

See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand.

--James 5: 7-8

Lectio Divina:

Practice lectio divina using:

For You, O Lord, My Soul Waits in Stillness

For you, O Lord,
my stillness waits;
truly my hope is in you.

O Lord of Light,
our only hope of glory,
your radiance shines in all who look to you;
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.

O Spring of Joy,
rain down upon our spirits;
our thirsty hearts are yearning for your word;
come, make us whole, be comfort to our hearts.

O Root of Life,
implant your seed within us,
and in your advent, draw us all to you,
our hope reborn in dying and in rising.

O Key of Knowledge,
guide us in our pilgrimage;
we ever seek, yet unfulfilled remain;
open to us the pathway of your peace.

Come, let us bow before the God who made us;
let every heart be opened to the Lord,
for we are all the people of God's hand.

Here we shall meet
the Maker of the heavens,
Creator of the mountains and seas,
Lord of the stars, and present to us now.
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?
--Marty Haugen (Glory to God, Presbyterian Hymnal)