



Grain

“Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries.” —Jimmy Carter

“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.” —Jane Goodall

Field

“Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.” Psalm 150

Special Note: Please check out Care for God’s Creation resources: ELCA website (Advocacy, ELCA World Hunger and statements); LOPPW; and Lutherans Restoring Creation

Thoughts by Hunger Advocacy Fellow Kelsey Johnson

I can still hear the echo of youth voices screaming Psalm 150 into the freckled night sky, the words hanging in the hot summer air like the Spanish moss dripping from the trees in the central Florida landscape. Psalm 150 was a classic Luther Springs camp song that cycled through all the instruments, with each verse rising at an increasing decibel level. In the late 90s, camp was a place to come together with other youth and spend time connecting with God in nature. It was a sacred week- something I’d look forward to every year, only acutely aware of the faith formation it was stirring inside me.

I can’t read Psalm 150 without thinking of the connection it has to nature. Jimmy Carter’s quote perfectly connects the dots, “Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries.” Camp is and was a place where all these elements came together in a perfect chorus, and I’ve found many camp lessons transcend the boundaries of “place,” popping up in daily life. Like a stone breaking the surface of a glassy pond, patterns of God’s presence in nature ripple throughout our lives and are not limited to a camping situation. There are moments each day when we brush up against God in the natural world and feel this spirit of close interconnectedness: a breeze of fresh air, the silence of snowfall, the first blooms of spring... Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. May you find these moments of connection to God through encountering and caring for nature, not just on Earth Day but every day as we are called as stewards of this intricate and connected creation.

Prayer

Highly recommended.

Share

Send any quotes you'd like to share with our network to cindyc@loppw.org

All Monday Quotes found under the Resources & Advocacy Tools tab at www.loppw.org

Many Blessings upon you,

Team LOPPW