



Grain

“And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.” –Anais Nin.

Submitted by Rev. Mae Jean Zelle, Mount Horeb

Field

“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Isaiah 43:18-19

Many thanks to Rev. Mae Jean Zelle for sharing her thoughts today!

Thoughts by Rev. Mae Jean Zelle

Safety or risk? Safer at home or business as usual? These are the questions we must decide as restrictions on our daily life begin to be lifted. To be sure, these are important and complex questions, especially given that the burden of both the infection itself and the measures taken to slow the contagion fall disproportionately on the already-disadvantaged among us. It is neither prudent nor kind to ignore the pressing issues at hand and leap ahead to some imagined future.

However, it is also true that real change, the kind that will address the underlying issues that disadvantage some in the first place, will not happen until current conditions become unbearable. Left to itself, every system will stay the same and continue to get exactly the results it is already getting.

We are part of a global capitalistic system that had spread to every corner of the planet, entangling every person and thing on it. The forces that keep this system in place are strong indeed; it will take something earth-shaking to loosen its grip. Maybe, just maybe, we are being offered that earth-shaking event. Maybe God who accompanied God’s people into exile and back again is offering us the opportunity to envision a different, more resilient, and life-giving world.

Trying something new will be risky. But maybe the rules of supply and demand just aren’t up to the task of ordering our collective life any more. Maybe we need to choose the Way of the common good instead. Maybe we need to embrace the Truth of our inter-connectedness. Maybe we need to seek a Life that offers sustainable life for all. May the God of love lead us into that Way, that Truth, and that Life. Happy Monday!

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Many blessings upon you,

Pastor Mae Jean