



Transfiguration

February 23rd 2020

Words to explore before ... from the novel *The Colour Purple* Alice Walker

...have you ever found God in church? I never did. I just found a bunch of folks hoping for him to show. Any God I ever felt in church I brought in with me. And I think all the other folks did too. They come to church to share God, not find God.

I think us here to wonder, myself. To wonder. To ask. And that in wondering bout the big things and asking bout the big things, you learn about the little ones, almost by accident. But you never know nothing more about the big things than you start out with.

The more I wonder, the more I love.

I think it pisses God off if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it.



I am an expression of the divine, just like a peach is, just like a fish is. I have a right to be this way...I can't apologize for that, nor can I change it, nor do I want to... We will never have to be other than who we are in order to be successful...We realize that we are as ourselves unlimited and our experiences valid. It is for the rest of the world to recognize this, if they choose.

Time moves slowly, but passes quickly.



The Scala Santa (Holy Stairs), one of Rome's holiest sites, returned to its original beauty after a restoration in which the marble steps were freed of a wooden cover that Pope Innocent XIII had installed in 1723. The Scala Santa is a set of 28 white marble steps that Catholics believe Jesus climbed on his way to trial by Pontius Pilate. Believed to have been brought to Rome by St Helena, mother of Constantine, the emperor who introduced Christianity to the Roman Empire.

PSALM 99 you answered them for you were a forgiving God to them

The gathering prayer Holy places URC p22

Day by day, dear Lord, of you three things we pray:

to see you more clearly
to love you more dearly
to follow you more nearly day by day

HYMN a different temple Words Thomas Troeger Tune Rowan Tree S40

Come build with us a house of prayer: bring joy, bring grief, bring praise.
Bring every passion, need and care we human beings raise:
our thirst for faith, our questioning, our wordless, yearning sighs,
the hymns and anthems that we sing for all that God supplies.

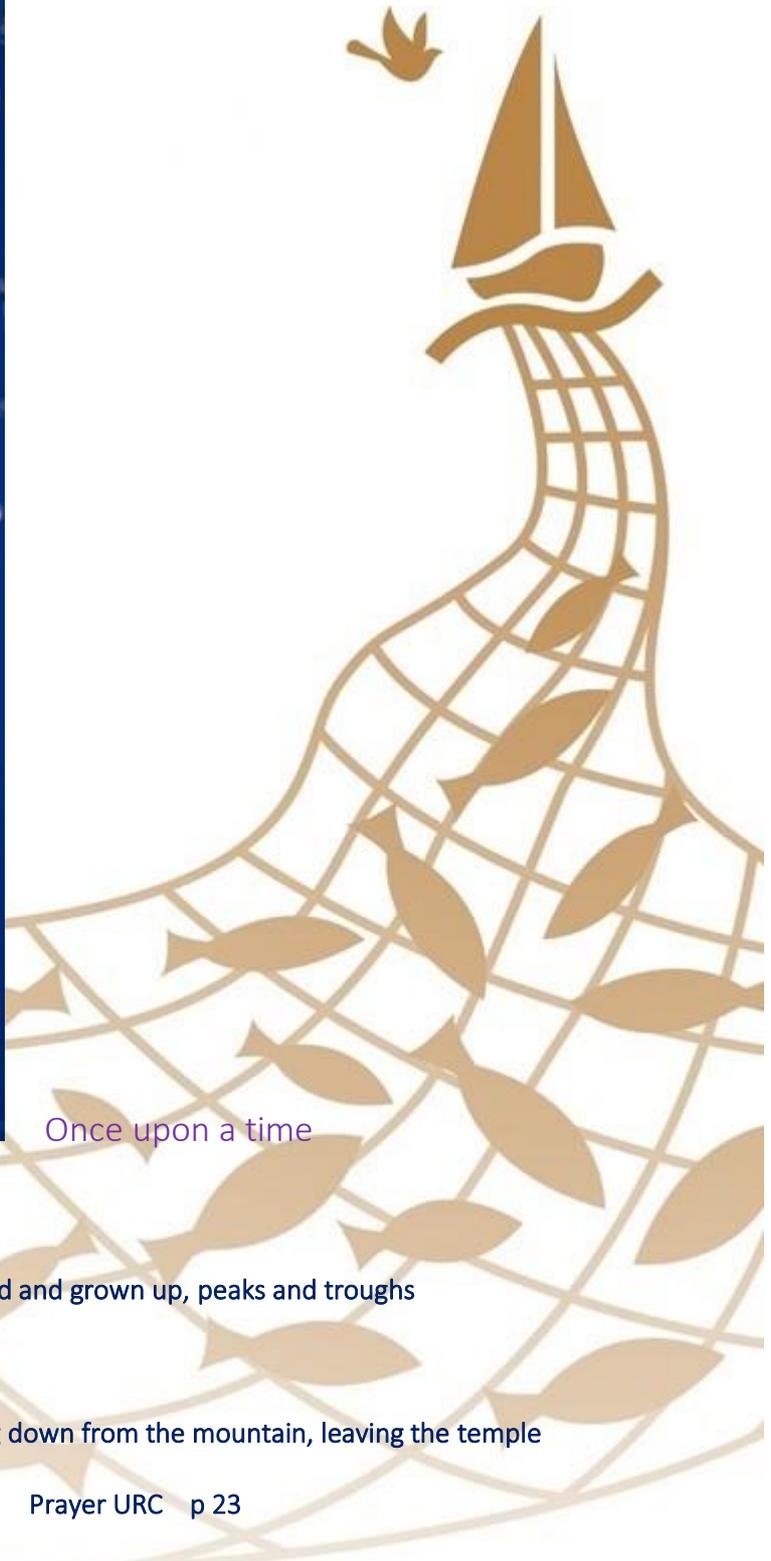
Then let the temple of the heart find here in stone and steel
a sign and symbol that impart the wonder that we feel:
a thankfulness surpassing speech at knowing we survive
because God's strong, attentive reach has kept this church alive.

Let all the light that fills this place a greater light bestow,
the shining of an inward grace that leads the heart to know:
each building built by human hands in time to dust returns
but in God's heart a temple stands that never falls or burns.

HymnQuest ID: 83640

Never forget, justice is what love looks like in public

A story of a boy and the colour indigo



Once upon a time

LUKE 2 41-52 lost and found ?

Reflection holding the tension; child and grown up, peaks and troughs

OFFERTORY HYMN 463 Fairest Lord Jesus

Meditation coming down from the mountain, leaving the temple

Prayer URC p 23

HYMN 578 All my hope on God is founded

Tune Michael

The Blessing after which we sing

May the God of peace go with us as we travel from this place
May the Love of Jesus keep us firm in hope and full of grace

