

Connecting New

March, 2016

The kingdom of God is at hand! This was and continues to be Jesus' message to us. Yet in his time and continuing through today, much of the world we experience testifies to the opposite. Yes there are moments when we are deeply connected through love with God, other people and creation, but who does not experience a sense of longing for deeper connection and reconciliation with others, whether it be family members, neighbors, "strangers" who may be of a different race, religion or culture, or the person from whom we keep our distance when we go to church?

This month I share two paintings and a poem that resonate with either end of our "now, but not yet" reality. In the second painting, there is a yearning to bridge the chasm, but you may notice that this yearning occurs in landscape that is reminiscent of the heavens. Perhaps because these yearnings are naive fantasies or perhaps the only way to connect is through God's grace. But I choose hope and invite you to do the same.



Legacy

My legacy is love...
not on a tombstone, in news articles,
photo albums, jewelry drawers,
bank accounts or foundation names.
My legacy is love...
like in the flowing of a creek,
the breeze across the prairie,
the soft illumination of the moon,
and the yearning deep within to connect.
My legacy is love...
it started long ago,
blossoms a little more each day,
and will last forever.
My legacy, my love,
is what we have created together.



May we more fully embrace our yearnings to bring about the kingdom of God on earth by cooperating with God's love, goodness and grace.

Peace and Blessings,
Clarence

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