

Weekly Meditation by Rev. Teri Lubbers
October 5, 2011

The Great Bottomless Stream

In actuality, the infinite coherence of all things and events continues like a great bottomless stream, and we like fish have but one choice, to find and ride the flow. That stream is God, or the Tao, as the great Chinese sage Lao-tzu terms it, and the strength that lifts us when our tiny wills merge with that stream of being is the sacred luminosity we experience as grace. Once in the stream, the life of preparation ends, the life of defense ends, the measuring of individual traits ends. Fear somehow gives way to Trust. Control somehow evaporates into Surrender. The fish and stream are for the moment one. ~ Mark Nepo, "The Book of Awakening"

I am home from Scotland...a land of many streams and peat bogs, lochs and firths, and views everywhere of vast ocean. On the tiny Isle of Erraid, my feet stood on granite outcropping, surrounded by heather and fern, rock and peat, and I faced into the sun and the strong winds that blew off the Atlantic. I am a water person to my core. Scotland was like heaven to me. To describe God as a great bottomless stream works for me all day long...

We are funny fish. We are like the story of two fish talking and one says to the other: What is this I hear about water? What is it? Let's go find some! And off they go...little realizing that they are already surrounded by, sustained by and swimming in it. You and I are already swimming in the flow of grace and luminosity. Each morning the only choice we really have to make is whether we will intentionally seek and ride its current. All preparations and planning, protective defenses and self-promotion collapse in the presence of this immensity. Nothing else matters and yet, when we move in this stream, we find that everything matters in a new way.

This is not my last meditation, but it is the last one I will write in residence here. There are no words to describe my love, gratitude and appreciation for you, Agape. No way to list all the ways you have gifted and nurtured my life. I am a little fish who found the bottomless stream here. And because I believe in the infinite coherence of all things, I know we are a part of one another...always.

Prayer: Thank you God.