

Weekly Meditation by Rev. Teri Lubbers

There's a Crack in Everything

You can add up the parts but you won't have the sum. You can strike up the march, there is no drum. Every heart, every heart to love will come, but like a refugee. Ring the bells that still can ring. Forget your perfect offering. There is a crack, a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in. ~ Leonard Cohen, song lyrics from "Anthem"

Not how I was planning for this year to end... with another loss in my family. My sister was only 57. I talked to her two weeks before her death, to tell her the news of my grandson's birth, and she shared in my excitement. The last time we were together was to travel from Idaho to Oregon to sprinkle our mother's ashes in the Pacific Ocean. In a few weeks we shall be doing the same for her.

Have been thinking about these lyrics from Leonard Cohen all day. They remind me that no matter how hard I try to add up the parts of this event, they will never yield a satisfying sum. There are things that will never make sense, things that will never be okay with me. There are things I will never get to do again. But there are still words of love to be spoken, still memories to be cherished, laughed about, or cried over. There are still bells to be rung...precious life to be shared. Ours is to never quit finding the bells that still can ring.

There is a crack in everything – broken places that leak, shattered places that may never feel whole – there are no perfect offerings. Yes, there is a crack in everything; but it's where light comes streaming in, through the broken shards, but light unquenchable.

Prayer: God, help me find what I can do and give me strength and light enough to do it. Amen.