LCWR Spring Regional Meetings Contemplative Reflection

Global Concerns Committee

Song: I Am Willing by Holly Near

I am open and I am willing For to be hopeless would seem so strange. It dishonors those who go before us So lift me up to the light of change.

There is hurting in my family And there is sorrow in my town. There is panic in the nation And there is wailing the whole world round.

May the children see more clearly And may the elders be more wise. May the winds of change caress us Even though they burn our eyes.

Give me a mighty oak to hold my confusion And give me a desert to hold my fears. Give me a sunset to hold my wonder And give me an ocean to hold my tears.

Reflective Readings:

Excerpt from LCWR President- Pat Murray, IBVM:

We are called to be a contemplative presence in the world, discerning how to respond to changing landscapes, telling one another what is happening wherever we find ourselves, how we feel called to respond and inviting support from one another.

Excerpt from article by LCWR President-Elect Elise D. Garcia, OP: "In Hopeful Expectation" - LCWR Update December 2019:

In the pivotal years ahead, as we live at the prophetic edge of society-conserving our lands as perpetual signs of our care of creation, greening and repurposing our buildings in support of our values, entrusting our ministries to lay partners and otherwise "decarbonizing" the life for the larger common good- we create an unencumbered path for our "Marys". May their lighter footprint more nimbly serve the larger purpose for which we came: To ensure that all the "Marys" of the world await a future full of hope.

Excerpt from LCWR 2019 Presidential Address by Sharlet Wagner, CSC:

We can thank God that our task as elected leaders is not to create a plan for the new to emerge; it is to create a space for the new to emerge. We are called to create a space for the young to create a space for the growing diversities, to create a space in which the holy Spirit is free to work. If we can do this, and do it with passion, then the future will emerge, and it will be good.

Silent Reflection:

Closing Prayer: Listen to the Movement of the Spirit

In the depth of silence Listen to the movement of the Spirit.

In the depth of silence

Listen to the beating of your heart, Listen to the gurgling of the stream, Listen to the blowing of the wind.

In the depth of silence,

Listen to the cry of the voiceless, Listen to the groaning of the hungry, Listen to the sigh of the oppressed.

In the depth of silence

Listen to the peace of justice, Listen to the joy of celebration, Listen to the hope of a new world.

In the depth of silence

Listen to the movement of the Spirit. Amen.