



Lenten Reflection for Tuesday, March 8th

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You can listen to the reading and reflection by clicking [here](#).

Isaiah 55:8 - 13

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This passage seems to be trying to explain the mystery of God to us. At first, however, there is a disclaimer: The ways and thoughts of the Lord are “higher” and thus perhaps beyond our understanding. But, then, like many good teachers, the author begins to give us examples to guide our understanding of the ways and the thoughts of the Lord. These examples are from nature—rain and snow which water our earth and produce the food which sustains us. So does God’s word and love sustain us. Isaiah’s next examples reinforce the message that it is through nature that we can experience God’s love. “The mountains and hills before you shall burst into song....” Deacon John’s sermon February 27th echoed in my mind as I read those words. Somehow, we do feel drawn to God’s love on the mountain tops. Maybe Isaiah was pointing us toward the sublime, that intersection of objective and subjective that is as close as we can get to the divine.

This Lenten season, may we open our eyes, our ears and our hearts to the beauty and joy in nature, which allows us to know God’s love, the “higher” ways and thoughts of the Lord.



Hello, I am a retired high school special education teacher currently working helping high school students make up credits they lost during the pandemic. I live in the Kansas City area, but through the wonders of the internet and Zoom and my Brooklyn family, the Tyszkas, I have become connected to the Holy Apostles community. I feel blessed to be part of the energy, growth, and faith of this church.