



Lenten Reflection for Maundy Thursday, April 14th
Morgan McGuire

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

Psalm 116:1, 10 – 17

*I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.
O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the Lord's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.*

Pause and reflect on your life Morgan. Those are what the words above make me do. Pause and reflect. I have had profound seasons in life where I have felt so heard and cared for by God and I have had seasons where I have felt distance even in what I felt was my great need. I usually chock it up to "God is God and I am not."

All life does is move forward so we must move forward. So frequently I forget either experience because well... I have moved forward. But it doesn't mean that didn't happen.

*How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?*

If I sit with that for long enough even in a season where I feel those good things less tangibly, I am reminded of so much. I am reminded of the Ebenezer's built throughout my life. Those moments where I could not move without the help of God. And the remembrance of those moments—the calling forth is a balm to whatever current trials I have. A balm to places where I feel God isn't showing up. Or even the places where I am too tired to see God showing up.

When I sit with all this I am reminded that my story, my history, my very being is a reminder of the goodness of God and I am filled with gratitude. And that gratitude can mean something to me, it can mean something in the world, it can maybe even mean something to God. And maybe this is why pausing and reflecting is good. So we can see the goodness.



Morgan lives in Park Slope. She is mostly a playwright and an actor, but sometimes she teaches gardening. She likes plants, puppies and humans. And on her good days she's really glad that "God so loved the world..." and on her bad days she joins the rest of the population in shouting about geopolitics on the internet.