

For the Beauty of Each Day

When my husband was alive and we were able to get out, the thing he enjoyed most was simply going for a ride. He would point out to me constantly on these rides, different things. One day he pointed out every Blue Spruce Tree that he saw. He was obsessed that day with the pine trees. Another day he pointed out birds and was fascinated by birds sitting on wires or in trees, flying overhead or gathering. One day and this occurred quite often, it was clouds, he would gaze in wonder at clouds and their formations. One day we drove through several small towns and he would point out the local cemetery. I liked to take him to see the Christmas lights, it was always like he was seeing them for the first time. We had known each other a long time and for all those years the only thing he ever pointed out to me were cars, so this was a new path. I like that he was looking at the world as if it were new. Perhaps with his dementia, it was new to him. I want to remember to see the beauty of each day, whether it is to hear a bird singing, or a flower blooming, or even the clouds. This morning I saw beauty in a neighbor walking her dog. Her dog is blind, and she now patiently leads the dog across the cement drive to the green grass and they walk around the trees. She no longer takes the dog far for the dog tires easily. Some people would have given up on the dog, but she patiently cares for the dog. There is beauty in their devotion to each other. God has made the world beautiful and we need to see the beauty of each day. There is beauty in a flower blooming or in a leaf falling or clouds, or even in the bond between a woman and her dog. If I cannot go out or just do not feel like going out, I can look out the window and see my tiny portion of the world. I can find something beautiful each day.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 He has made everything beautiful in its time.

Psalms 24:1 The earth is the Lord's and everything in it and all who live in it.

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies. Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*For the Beauty of the Earth by Folliot S. Pierpoint

Lord, thank you for the beauty that reminds us of your love. May we treasure it and find your peace and joy in our world. We ask that you be with those that are suffering, with the hungry and the homeless, with those that are suffering illness and those who grieve. Be with those that are facing the loss of their livelihood, those that are facing loss of homes. May we answer your call to "Feed my sheep" to those who seek your word and those in need. Be with our Pastor, bless his ministry. Be with our leaders and staff, may they find your direction and sustenance for their mission. Be with our church, may we be the hands and feet of Christ. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

Grace Epperson