

December 1, 2025



SIMPLE WONDERS

By Julie Mussché

A Quote

“To pray is to take notice of the wonder, to regain a sense of the mystery that animates all beings, the divine margins in all our attainments.”

ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL

Reflection

Several weeks ago, in the quiet of the late night, I thought I heard a frog croaking in the back yard. The sound had been missing all summer after a raucous Spring season so I had wondered if the frogs would return. Sitting still with my ears tuned in, indeed my senses had not deceived me. The repetitious lilt of frog song is quite relaxing. Equally calming was the idea of a frog inhabiting the green space of my property as the reclusive amphibians are shrinking in number, easy victims of global warming and a shrinking habitat.

Then one day, in preparation for Halloween decorating the yard, I caught a familiar croak coming from the front yard. Was it the same frog? A new froggy addition? I barely could contain my excitement. Several days on, another late evening, the backyard frog started singing a joyous tune and later others joined in. What an amazing concert in the wild.

Did you ever have occasion to ponder, what in the world compelled God to create amazing creatures like frogs? I have enjoyed the full symphony of tree frogs humming together on a warm summer night in the Ozarks, yet there is something extraordinary about frogs exchanging unknown messages in the middle of an Orange County suburb. Don't you think there is something truly hopeful about it all?



Tree Frog on Grass
Photo by Mali Maeder

For Pondering

- Where and how do you find messages of hope?
- What energizes your spirit in these tidings?

For Prayer

*Thank you, Wondrous Creator,
for the hopeful messages you send my way.
Help me to just run with it, spreading the possibilities with all I encounter.
Amen.*

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