

April 27, 2023



Center for Spiritual Development

Daily Reflections

JOURNEYING THROUGH EASTER

Photo by Tomas Williams from Pexels

RELATING AND BUILDING CONNECTIONS

By Julie Mussché

*“...We have to be willing to listen,
curious about the diversity of experiences and ideas...
Meaningful conversations depend on our willingness
to forget about neat thoughts,
clear categories, narrow roles.
Messiness has its place...”*

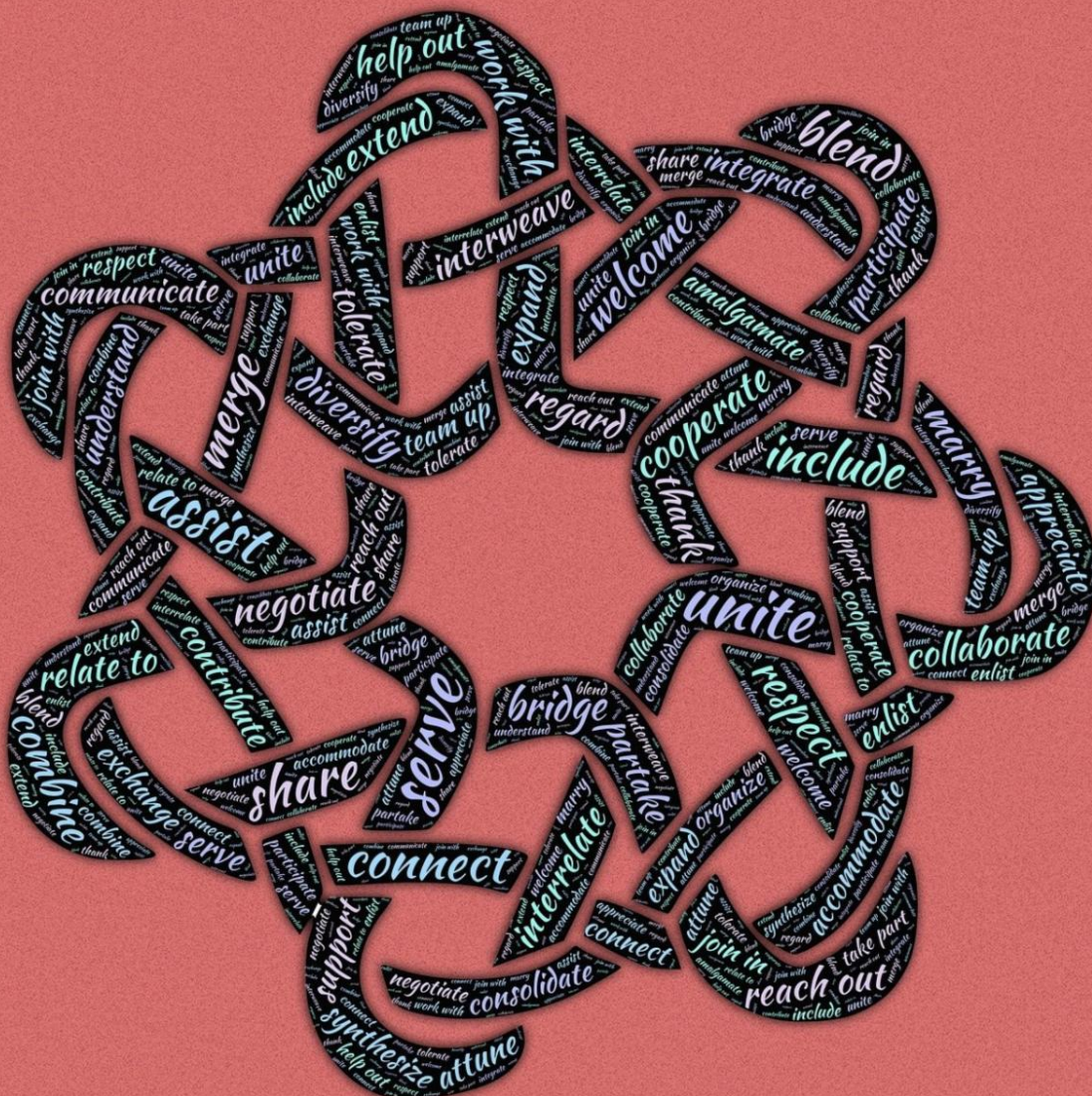
MARGARET J. WHEATLEY

Turning to One Another, 33

Reflection

Recently, at a gathering, I helped to facilitate a “World Café.” It had been years since I had helped to guide such a process and in preparing for the day, I reviewed the seven principles bolstering the approach. A “World Café” process recognizes that we all come with different perspectives, and that the “sum is greater than the parts,” and that there is innovation and potential insights to be

This experience gave me pause to reflect on several questions that are timely as a Christian lifted by the promises of Easter, and as a person living in our current time. What does it mean to be radically inclusive? To receive and serve the dear neighbor without distinction? How are we called to unifying love with God and each other? When am I called to suspend judgement, to just be with people as they are and where they are, even if it is discordant from my milieu? What does it mean to offer unmitigated hospitality, to receive the stranger as a part of the community? How are we called to be curious about one another, to listen to stories with not only understanding but also with empathetic and compassionate witness? It seems there may be some work to do.



For Pondering

- How have you been carried by Eastertide to consider God's invitation to unifying love and inclusivity?
 - What inspires you, what gets in the way of living into God's desire for you?
-

Weaving Inclusive Love

*"God of inclusive love,
Enflame our hearts with the fire of your love
That we may build bonds of relationship and respect among all..."*

JOANNE GALLAGHER, CSJ

That all may be ONE

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