

peace be with you

# weekly devotional

from the desk of Rev. Marta Wheeler

SAINT PAUL BENSON

## Sensing Wonder

Sweet sparrows sing out the  
Season of Autumn once more.  
Yet stepping into the  
backside of autumn brings feelings of awe  
and a bit of fear perhaps.

The past few weeks I've picked up  
broad leaves in brilliant colors  
and saved them as bookmarks  
just in case there is never again a  
specimen as pretty as  
this perfect one found while walking.

Stepping into the backside  
of autumn causes my  
miniature furry friend  
to be a bit skittish and unable  
to walk far without planting her paws  
and belly firmly on the earth.

It is there that she watches  
the leaves twirl in the breeze and observes  
the crunchy, brown pods scattering across the lawn.  
She's not about to wander  
past a purple mum glistening  
without admiring how it shines so!

This pup's first autumn is filled  
with wonder and joy and sometimes  
concern. Do you think that she  
knows what's ahead as a sliver of winter arrives?  
Let's take each day as it comes,  
Sensing wonder in new ways!

**November 10, 2021**

### **Matthew 6:34 (The Message)**

“Give your entire attention to  
what God is doing right now,  
and don't get worked up about  
what may or may not happen  
tomorrow. God will help you  
deal with whatever hard  
things come up when the time  
comes.”

### **One Autumn Sunday**

Altogether, this past Sunday was a  
very good day in which I really  
didn't worry about what may  
happen, but simply enjoyed the  
moment. During worship we  
celebrated two centennial  
birthdays of members we all love at  
Saint Paul. We heard a  
heartwarming sermon, a heart-  
stirring anthem, and were happy  
for young children attending  
worship and Sunday School.

*Continued*

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## **One Autumn Sunday**

In the afternoon, the youth group went to the new Capitol Avenue district. We walked through a giant slide show of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel artwork. None of us had been to Rome before and were quite captivated. Then, over scones and chocolate chip cookies we wondered how those incredible images have affected the faith of Christians over the ages.

Afterwards, in our sanctuary, several dozen gathered to listen to The Chamber Music Gallery. The ensemble is composed of a violin, viola, cello, oboe, and piano. They played pieces with emotion that sink into the heart until tears well up. Some composers were familiar, and others were new to me: Handel, Clarke, Mengozzi, Mendelssohn, and Piazzol.

No one event this past Sunday was earth shattering. But all together remind me of the goodness of God and the rhythm of life. Oh, the wonder of being together while sharing music, images, and sweets!

We'd love to hear how you've experienced the wonder of life!

*Sending prayers of God's peace, love, and hope to you!*



Rev. Marta Wheeler