



peace be with you
weekly devotional

from the desk of Rev. Marta Wheeler
SAINT PAUL BENSON

The Way Home

Orange detour signs send me off on
this adventure
I'd not planned on taking.

I smile to myself while driving
where green plants snuggle
narrow road miles upon miles.

As long as compass points towards the
way home I can breathe
deeply and take in the verdant
views where no one else travels at
this moment in time.

You see, after visiting many
friends not seen in
far too long, and meeting

one kindred spirit for the first time
after praying
singing and celebrating

continued

June 14, 2023

Psalm 100

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness and come
into the divine presence with a song.

Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God;
the One made us and to whom we
belong; we are God's people, the sheep
of God's pasture.

Enter the gates of the Lord with
thanksgiving; go into these courts with
praise;

give thanks to God and call upon the
name of the Lord.

For the Lord is good, whose steadfast
love is everlasting;

and whose faithfulness endures from
age to age.

The Way Home

a thirty-year anniversary
of note, my restless
mind calms and eyes grow heavy

no highway requiring full focus
would do when all
I want is to
ruminate on friends left
behind, awaiting my return.

Sometimes gifts come in form of detours
that send us off
to remote roads
much lovelier by far.

Although getting lost while walking or driving can hold an element of fear, there can also be other emotions. Being diverted from six lanes of concrete and being suddenly immersed in green is so calming.

While sitting outside and writing this devotion, a tiny insect has appeared upon my computer keyboard. The antennae are busy sensing this space and it's hard to concentrate on anything else. So, I will pause in delight!

All creatures have their place in God's creation. Humans are one of the weakest physically in the chain. We can choose to use our brainpower to have control over others or to give thanks for the wonder of their beings as well. Wouldn't it be wonderful to fly in the air and swoop gracefully in the water, or to sing as lovely as the songbirds? We all have our gifts but through all of creation our hearts soften, and we are reminded:

*The Lord is good, whose steadfast love is
everlasting*

*And whose faithfulness endures from age to
age.*

We pray for each of you and give thanks for your faithfulness to God in all your ways.

Marta

Rev. Marta Wheeler