

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday April 7, 2025 - John 14: 27

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. Read

John 14 for meditation and inspiration.



Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus, we read, "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son and they will call Him Immanuel, a name which means God-is-with-us" (Mt. 1:23).

The following poem, entitled "Windows of Wonder," offers us a moving reflection on this Gospel Text with it reflected in the dialogue between God and Moses on Mount Sinai. Remember how it went in Exodus chapter 3:13-15 "Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I am has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': this is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

In this idea, the author imagines the following dialogue with the Lord God:

I was regretting the past,
and fearing the future.
Suddenly my Lord was speaking:

"My name is I AM"
He paused.
I waited.

He continued.

"When you live in the past,
with its mistakes and regrets,
it is hard. I am not there.
My name is not I WAS.

"When you live in the future,
with its problems and fears,
it is hard. I am not there.
My name is not I Will Be.

"When you live in this moment,
it is not hard. I am here.
My name is I AM."

In the name of Immanuel,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger".

Roger