

# The Lakeside



## Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday March 30, 2026 - Romans 8:32

**32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?**

Read Romans 8 for meditation and inspiration.



## THE HOLY WEEK DRAMA

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

Poet Louise Fletcher beautifully writes about a place we can all dream of and hope for. She imagines "some wonderful place called the Land of Beginning Again, where all our mistakes and heartaches could be dropped like a shabby old coat at the door and never be put on again."

I am here to remind you there is such a wonderful place we can call "the Land of Beginning Again." We're already there. It's in this gathering, this worship community. And it all begins with learning to listen to Jesus – learning to trust Jesus. This lesson was one of the hardest for the Apostles, who refused to accept that Jesus' death was necessary if there was to be new life. He tried to help them understand that God works through a process of Death/Resurrection, that this is how God has chosen to bring new life into the world, and that unless He dies, they cannot have new life. Unless He dies, they cannot have the fulfillment they've dreamed about and hoped for.

As we reflect today on our reading of the Passion of the Lord, I am reminded of a quote by psychologist Carl Jung who wrote of “Christ’s Voluntary Sacrifice: The voluntary nature of Jesus’ sacrifice, unlike forced ones, makes it a powerful, meaningful path to spiritual and psychological growth, a path of blood and suffering to wholeness.

Jung saw Jesus’ sacrifice not just as a historical or theological event, but as a potent psychological drama enacted within the human psyche, revealing the arduous but necessary path toward self-realization and the union of God and humanity.

No matter how you describe the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary’s cross, Jesus claimed that was why he came, that was his ultimate mission, and necessary for the law to be upheld and salvation made available to all who call upon His name and believe in Him.

In the shadow of the Cross,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger