



**Ah, Spring!**  
April 3, 2024  
Lisa Heckman

*♪ What a wondrous time is Spring when all the leaves are budding.  
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming. ♪*

from "Pass It On!" by Kurt Kaiser

Ah, Spring! Even after the relatively mild winter we've had, it is a delight to see signs of spring all around. Flowers are popping up, bird song fills the air, and the weather is doing that "April rains" thing. (Yeah, it's Wisconsin, so there was also a chance of snow last night!)

Spring is the season of new beginnings, so how fitting it is that Easter happens after the Spring Equinox. Jesus' resurrection was the start of a whole new life, not only for him but for all of creation. The cross couldn't stop him, death was not the end. Thru this almighty act, God brought wondrous new possibilities into the created order.

That was a once in eternity happening. Yet spring reminds us that God is constantly making wondrous new possibilities happen. Where we see an ending, God sees a beginning. Our challenge is catching up to God! Okay, that's not something we can do alone, but Jesus and the Holy Spirit are all over that as well, empowering us to play our part in God's newness. We need to let go of the past, of life as we knew it before the cross, and wrap our minds around where God is leading us next.

That's not simple to do. Even after spending 3 years as Jesus' disciples and 40 days with him between the Resurrection and his ascension, Peter and the rest still had lots of questions and even doubts. The book of Acts shows them over and over again having to rethink how they thought this kingdom life was to be lived. Not all of the old rules still applied. The letting go was for them and is for us a hard thing to do. That's okay, too. God has incredible patience and will keep giving us nudges in the right direction.

Beyond what is seen in nature, where do you experience God doing a new thing in your life? In your church? In the presbytery? What spiritual nudges are you feeling? What acts of God's love are playing out before you? Have Good News to share? Pass it on!

Grace and Peace.

*Lisa*

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Rev. Lisa S. Heckman  
Transitional Executive Presbyter  
Presbytery of Milwaukee  
[lisa@pbymilwaukee.org](mailto:lisa@pbymilwaukee.org)  
work: 414.292.2743  
cell: 607.321.4581