



May 10, 2022

Dear Friends,

On Monday morning I made myself sit still and read the following prayer. As I did, it seemed that God's Spirit was coaxing numerous phrases to draw my attention. This was not a prayer for one sitting! Several days this week, I hope to turn to a different phrase in the prayer and listen for a whisper from God.

I hope you will join me in setting aside a few minutes to read this prayer *s-l-o-w-l-y*, and sit with the phrases that beckon you to pay attention.

"For Springtime" (by Arianne Braithwaite Lehn, in her book, *Ash and Starlight*)

Spring reminds me it's
never too late to start over.
That there's been quiet growth
over these long months
of winter when I saw nothing.
When I was called to believe
there was growth happening
beneath the hard, cold soil.

And now? Glory!

I celebrate the loveliness
of all you've made.
The newness, Lord,
the freshness –
it inspires my soul!

Tulips in the front yard,
buds on the trees,
the voices of birds,
the cleansing of rain,
the comfort of sunshine...
Each gift renews me,
speaking of the promise within
all those months of dormancy
and preparation.

As spring awakens my physical senses,
I ask, God, for you to awaken my inner senses.

May my mind open and blossom
to the longings you've placed within me...
To the steps and path that will
satisfy the desires of my heart...
to the hopes and passions
you've planted in every
one of your children...

May I seek what will truly fulfill them.
May I journey toward their Source.
May I be guided to your gentle and wise Spirit.

It is never too late to be
what you call me to be.
Even as it takes greatest courage
and deepest humility.

With your help, I will open myself to
what I never expected before,
never experienced before,
and never thought possible.
Amen.

continued →



How does the phrase "it's never too late to start over" speak to you in the joys, sorrows, opportunities, regrets, or challenges you're facing today?

Can you bring into the light the "quiet growth" that has been stirring within you?

In what ways is the "loveliness of all that God has made" able to refresh or inspire you?

Are there "inner senses" that God might be trying to awaken in you?

What "longings" are stirring within you these days and how can you "seek what will truly fulfill them?"

Who is God "calling you to be?" Do you have the "greatest courage and deepest humility" to discover answers?

Will you "open yourself to what you never expected before, never experienced before, and never thought possible?"

This prayer has the potential for prompting spiritual growth within each of us. Will you spend some time with it this week?

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg".

Gregory Knox Jones
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

P. S. I hope to see you in Community Hall this Sunday at 10 a.m. when we honor former Westminster pastor, Jon Walton.