



A Lenten Mosaic - Living In Grace Lent 2020

**Devotion for Monday,
March 2, 2020**

Grace
gives me a day
too beautiful
I had thought
to stay indoors
& yet
washing my dishes
straightening
my shelves
finally
throwing out
the wilted onions
shrunken garlic cloves
I discover
I am happy
to be inside
looking out.
This, I think,
is wealth.
Just this choosing
of how
a beautiful day
is spent.

By Alice Walker

Psalm 32:1-7

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, " I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.
You are a hiding-place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

Prayer

I thank you, O God, for the warming of the winds
that brings a melting of the snow,
for daylight hours that daily grow longer
and richer in the aroma of hope.
Spring lingers beneath the horizon
as approaching echoes of Easter ring in my ears.

I lift up my heart to you, Beloved,
in this season of Lent that gently sweeps across
my sluggish and sleeping heart,
awakening me to a deeper love for you.

May the wind of the Spirit that drove Jesus into the desert,
into the furnace of prayer, also drive me with a passion
during the Lenten season to enkindle the fire of my devotion
in the desert of Lenten love.

Edward Hays, From *Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim*