

The Garden

Paula Zand¹

For God so loved the earth, he gave his only son.

In the garden we walk with Jesus...like we have so many times before. On this day, he brings us into the very core of Christianity...to witness the most difficult sacrifice of becoming fully human.

Sleep comes first...to let go...to leave limitations...to open.

Jesus, our servant, healer, teacher, beloved friend... now asks of us...to be still, here, with him...in the garden.

We are asked to be awake...to 'be with' suffering...to 'be with' anguish...to witness innocence betrayed...to hold the space in our hearts for the suffering of another....

The most difficult and most simple gift we have to offer.

With every cell in our body, be awake...meeting this day in divine human participation...hearing his voice...

“Not my will, Lord, but Thine.”

¹ Paula Zand is a member of Church of the Redeemer.