

Not Ordinary Church

Angel Unaware

Allyson Sawtell, 11/20

*Joyful, joyful, joyful
as only dogs know how to
be happy
With only the autonomy
of their shameless spirit
-- Pablo Neruda*

Nothing says “joyful” like a happy Labrador.
Spryly trotting down the path with your humans,
big ole smile across your face,
big ole tongue lolling out.
What glee!
Barely containing your laughter, your delight.

You are so full of life.
It radiates out from you,
glistens in your fur and in your deep, brown soul-touching eyes.
Such joy!

Wide open to the world,
your love overflows.

In the midst of turmoil and tension,
In the midst of fear and “othering”:
You pour your laughing heart out to anyone who will receive.

It is said you sense our feelings – you sense our pain and sorrow and fear
So you curl your warm bodies next to us, growling at the shadows in the corner
Such love!

And you are wide open to the world,
and your love overflows.

You dare, still, to keep smiling.



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