

Not Ordinary Church

Dark-Light Times

Allyson Sawtell, 2/5/20

These are dark times
Times that repel light
that swallow light
that obscure the path
that shelter the unknown
that make us frightened.

These are dark times
Times of rich, deep, black soil where seeds thought dead begin to rise up
where new seeds incubate in nurturing darkness, drinking in the power
where courage embraces the unknown
where we can be sheltered for a time.

Glossy midnight black shining with stars

These are light times
of searing whiteness that blots out all other colors, blistering and scorching as it declares its
power,
that burns the emerging seeds and dries the soil

These are light times
Times that make us blink and refocus
That open up our vision, that show us the young sprouts we thought lost.

These are dark times. These are light times.

These are twisted, convoluted, divisive, intertwined,
germinating, opening, flickering shadow and sunlight times.

These words are not about times of struggle between the light and the dark, with one being good and the other evil, but rather the struggle between evil – despair – apathy, and courage – joy – healing. And the goodness found both in light and in dark is a dance with ribbons of light and dark that shelters, frees, that opens and embraces. I just simply got fed up with “dark” being equated with bad, and “light” with good. It just isn’t so.



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