



Today, Saturday June 3, Sandy Roney's reflection reminds us how the child of the atrium leads us to deeper wonder about the Kingdom of God.

Several years ago, I was working with a very quiet 5-year-old boy, Robert, in the level I atrium. We were working with the altar work and as he snuffed out the candles. I observed him watching intently as the smoke rose. I said to him, "Robert, some people believe that the smoke carries..." Robert quickly chimed in and said, "the smoke carries our prayers to God." "You've heard that too?", I said. Robert, still watching the candle smoke, said, "I wonder, when God snuffs out His candles, where the prayers go?" "I don't know," I responded, "What do you think?" Robert stood back, arms crossed in very silent reflection and after a few moments he answered. "I think when God snuffs out His candles He blows the prayers down to us and they are in the clouds." Now my adult mind had never really thought of God sending prayers to us but, thanks to Robert, I will never look at the clouds in quite the same way again.

The wisdom of this small boy revealed a great truth to me that day. The reciprocal nature of our continuing encounter with the Holy. This is what we do each Sunday in the atrium, as we are led by the child.

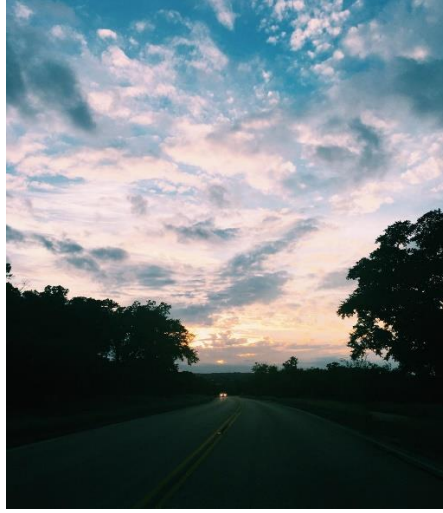


Photo courtesy Hannah Rose Tong