

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR WARDEN

Dear Friends,

As our search for a Priest-in-Charge moves forward we are called, at this time, to wait as patiently as possible. As we continue to wait and pray let's consider how God has answered prayers in the past:

### God of Surprises

They expected the first-born to lead, to guide  
and to take care of the rest.

God sent the eleventh son to save his family  
and an entire country in the bargain.

They expected to die out because the Pharaoh had  
ordered all male children to be killed,  
And God had the Pharaoh's daughter discover a baby  
in a floating basket — too adorable to kill.

They expected a man and woman with a large and prosperous  
family would be needed to populate a nation.  
Instead our God chose an old man and woman to be parents of  
one little boy named Isaac.

They looked for strong warriors and heavy armor to  
defeat the armies arrayed against them,  
But God sent a teen-ager whose only training had been  
with sheep and a home-made harp.

Living in exile among foreigners, they looked for a strong  
wise man to lead them back home.  
And God simply sent a young woman with courage stronger  
than any yet seen.

They expected a conquering king with all the best of war  
machines and technology to rescue them from the Romans.  
So God sent a tiny baby to a common laborer  
and his very young bride.

They looked for an eloquent and polished man to establish  
the New Way.  
But God chose a blustery, impulsive fisherman to establish  
His church.

They looked for pious man who had walked with Christ to  
spread the word among the nations;  
God chose one of His greatest persecutors to speak

and write in a way that all could understand.

And today? What is it we expect today? Why do we continue  
to look among the established people and ways?

There is a young child who cannot walk  
cannot speak but  
touched my face and looked in my eyes and I knew  
He could see whatever of love there was in me — and what I lacked

There is a young woman whose mind is troubled, who seeks and  
cannot seem to find —  
Yet she shows us where we are strong and where we are not.

There is a man who has lost his wealth and his work, who has  
wandered and sought —  
Yet he has lost neither hope nor joy  
and shares both with all whom he touches

Why are we so reluctant to see God among us today?  
Of what are we afraid?  
Are we afraid to admit that God may, in fact, truly dwell  
among us and within us today?

— Rhoda