

NC Synod Gathering Podcast Devotional—2022

Close your eyes. Take a deep breath in...and breathe out.

Read **Isaiah 43:19**.

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.*

Concentrate on each of the following statements, maybe even saying each phrase in your mind as you continue to breathe deeply.

Breathe in: *God is present in this place.*
Breath out: *God is doing a new thing.*

Breathe in: *God is present in my life.*
Breath out: *God is doing a new thing.*

Breathe in: *God is present in this community.*
Breath out: *God is doing a new thing.*

Breathe in: *God is present in this church.*
Breath out: *God is doing a new thing.*

Breathe in: *God is present in the world.*
Breath out: *God is doing a new thing.*

Think about newness. What comes to mind?

What new thing is God doing in your life?

In the life of your congregation?

In the life of your community?

For the sake of the world?

Pray:

*God, creator of all things, you were present in the beginning. You are present with us now. You are doing a new thing.
You invite us to be your hands and feet bringing your kingdom to earth as it is in heaven.
You are still doing a new thing. Help us to perceive it. Help us be witnesses of your way through the wilderness. Help us find comfort, thirst-quenching relief, and child-like delight in the rivers you provide in the desert.
And remind us to revel in the new thing you are doing, sharing the good news for the sake of the world.
Amen.*