

A roadmap poem for Advent 2014

What awaits us beyond the bend in the road?

What may we encounter?

What shall we see?

Who will we be?

What would we like to see?

How shall we relate?

What will we do?

What will stir our hearts?

What will break our hearts?

What will warm our hearts?

Or will it be just the same?

What are we longing for?

Shall we be purposeful?

Or simply drift from this to that?

Shall we live for a life in opposition?

Shall we live in abundance or be content with our scarcity

Shall we learn to live with hunger or will we seek to be satiated

Where does our hunger lie

How shall we deal with oppression?

Ours and the oppression of others

How shall we deal with pain?

Our own and that of others

What are we dreaming of

And what of rage?

What shall we do with our rage and with the rage of those whom we love?

And those with whom we are acquainted

How shall we tame rage in the world

We begin to imagine Eden

And what of hunger, pain, misery,

Sadness, grief, fear

And what of blindness and disability

What shall we do with that?

We begin to imagine a new earth

All this awaits us beyond the twist in the road

Then we will have eyes to see all this

And fall prostrate before this sanctuary; this altar of God

And this sanctuary and altar of the desperate needs of the world

We bow down to one another

Here we will gather to worship

From here we shall be fed and transformed

And from here we shall go where we must

To be who we must be

And do what we must

We are now the body of Christ

That is what awaits us

If only we would consent; say yes

Selah