

### Reflection Thursday Week 3 - 2022

Jesus is the master of the paradox. Give away your life and win life, hand over everything to me and you will have riches beyond measure. Today Jesus says, *“the man who has will be given more; from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away!”* Listen to what is not spoken, not seen, not heard!

**“Listening to Winter”** by Macrina Wiederkehr (adapted)

The trees have shed their colourful autumn robes.

Winter is raging through the dark, empty branches  
and I am listening.

I am listening to the roar and to the quiet of winter.

I am listening to a beauty that sometimes remains unseen.

I am listening to the seed hidden in the earth.

I am listening to the dark swallowing up the light.

I am listening to faith rising out of doubt.

I am listening to the need to believe without seeing.

I am listening to the season of contemplation,  
to the urgency of our world’s need for reflection.

I am listening to all that waits within the earth,  
to bulbs and seeds, to deep roots dreaming.

I am listening to the sacred winter rest.

I am listening to long nights,

comforting darkness,

fruitful darkness,

beautiful darkness.

I am listening to the darkness of the winter season.

I am listening to the sparks of hope within the darkness.

I am listening to storms raging out my window,  
to storms raging in my heart.

I am listening to trust buried deep in the ground of my being.

I am listening to the kind permission of the season to rest more often,  
to reflect more deeply, to pray without words.

I am listening to the sacrament of non-doing.

I am listening to my dreams and inner visions,  
to the unknown wrapped in the mystery of my life,  
to tears trapped in underground streams of my being,  
to seeds watered daily by those tears.

to bare trees, so lovely in their emptiness,

to that one leaf that never did let go.

I am listening.....**Are You?**