

Reflection Good Friday Year A 2023

This is a different translation of Isaiah:

*it was our suffering he carried,
our pain and distress, our sick-to-the-soul-ness.*

*We just figured that God had rejected him,
that God was the reason he hurt so badly.*

⁵ *But he was hurt because of us; he suffered so.
Our wrongdoing wounded and crushed him.*

*He endured the breaking that made us whole.
The injuries he suffered became our healing.*

⁶ *We all have wandered off, like shepherdless sheep,
scattered by our aimless striving and endless pursuits;
The Eternal One laid on him, this silent sufferer,
the sins of us all.*

It is because Jesus fully embraced his humanity that he was able to save us through the Cross. He embraced both his littleness and his frailty and in doing so allowed his greatness to win freedom for us. Macrina Wiederkehr osb wants us to understand that in our own small way the Cross of Jesus works in us and through us to testify to the glory and the greatness of God, for the salvation of the world.

*To be divinized is your destiny.
Your original union yearns for a place in your life.
Walk gently, then, with your frailty
like a treasure hidden in a field....
Allow it to bless you.
It will not cripple you unless you run from it.
Embrace it instead.
Carry it as one carries the cherished secret of a great wealth
hidden away in a holy, eternal space
like a treasure hidden in a field.
That's you!
You fragile, noble being, Little-Great-One.
Yes, there are whispers of greatness
in the frail envelope of your being.
The dust of the Ash Wednesdays of your life
is tinged with the glory of your Easters.
Your tomb is a womb of life;
you are hidden with Christ in God.
The dust of your life fades into glory.
O frail and glorious creature
from the crib to the cross
to be divinized is your destiny.
Your original union cries out to become flesh in your life.
Your frailty and your glory
Your littleness and your greatness
yearn to come home in your heart.
The heavens have heard whispers of your splendour
and God still weeps at your birth.*