

Jammin' with the Wisdom of Jesus

Some Notes for the Reflection on May 24, 2017



There is a profound theme
that runs through most jazz lyrics and charts
that you will hear.

It's here tonight.

It's here every night in what we think is
the best little jazz club in North Burnaby.

It's the discovery of love as a gift.

We long for it when it appears to be absent.
We celebrate it when it seems to be present.
We wonder whether we have the ability to offer it.
We experience deep gratitude when we are offered it.

It's not often that you get this kind of wonderful jazz
from a connected couple,
like we enjoying this evening from Molly and Tristan.
We are so privileged to have you
filling this house with your wonderful vibe.

Jesus took flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth,
to show and share the love of God
in ways that are profoundly attractive and alluring.

The music of Christ's uniquely powerful love
vibrates through this music this evening.
That may not be the way you see it at this point,
but I pray that the Spirit works within you this evening
to help you reconsider
the steadfast and everlasting source of true love in your life.

The Brentwood Manifesto of the Christian Faith

How We See God, the World, Humanity, and the Future

*In the beginning, God created the world
and delighted in its diversity and development.
God created human beings
and nourished them to flourish in blessing all of creation.*

*But humanity rebelled, rejecting the limits of their power.
Their rebellion against God's vision of justice, peace, and joy
brought tyranny, suffering, and death.*

*God never tired of calling humanity home
to work in common to cultivate the well-being of the world.
Through the law and the prophets,
God's Spirit invited love of God, love of others, and love of self
as the empowering energy for engaging in this mission.*

*In a unique and decisive act of reconciliation and revelation,
God overcame our alienation and loneliness.
God took flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.
In the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ,
the creation is restored to its original purpose.
God continues to craft the completion of this redemption.*

*Through the church universal, visible and invisible,
the Holy Spirit empowers people
to participate consciously in their reconciliation
through worship, learning, fellowship, and service.*

*By God's grace in Jesus Christ through the work of the Spirit,
we know what it is to be loved and to love
amidst all the problems of the world.
We are equipped and sent to sow seeds of God's SHALOM
in all of our circles of influence.*

*In the end, God's love, healing, and forgiveness
will transform heaven and earth
and bring justice, peace, and joy to full realization.*