



*"God, what is it You want to do through me?"*

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## **In the Garden**

Gardening requires a generosity of spirit  
a willingness to invest in unlikely specimens  
seeing potential where another sees failure  
taking a chance on a gangly fruitless tree  
when the sure bet says cut it down.  
To be a gardener is to know God  
at least the God who patiently nurtures  
without being certain of the outcome  
but does not back away from the challenge.  
God's like that with us over and again  
taking chance after chance on us,  
playing against the cynic's house,  
not listening to the naysayers and gossips  
prattling on about sin and lost causes—  
she must have sinned a lot to be so sick,  
hurricanes are because men marry men,  
Muslims are mostly terrorists—  
tossing judgments around like rice  
on the brides and grooms leaving church.  
When we brood over or proclaim divine judgment,  
it is good to remember God's mercy—  
sinners are always in the hands  
of a loving God, despite Jonathan Edwards  
and those who feel the need to tell God to punish  
the others who break rules they tell  
God He needs to make for our good.  
But God does not love us because  
we are good, She loves us because  
God is good, the Master Gardener

who knows when our roots are dried out  
our leaves shriveled and limbs drooping  
even before we do, providing spiritual fertilizer  
and living water—spigots are everywhere  
always in the on position. Just pray and drink deeply,  
the flow that never ends.

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Rev. Dr. Robin Gorsline is the MCCDC Writer-Theologian in Residence,  
currently on sabbatical, discovering fresh ways to garden with fullness of soul.



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*Please join the inspiration of our Daily Devotionals for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter on the theme **Full to the Brim**. Please email your reflection, prayer, or other contribution to MCCDC Senior Pastor Rev. Elder Dwayne Johnson at [RevDwayne@mccdc.com](mailto:RevDwayne@mccdc.com).*

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