

1/10/17

# Narrative Lectionary

## Focus on one Verse

Like a facet of a gem to see  
all Scripture

## This year

God's Provision - Life

Creation Consciousness

Called

Prophetic

Prepared

Christ

Life

Today - Ordered Giving vs Giving Orders

Gen 1 = Call to worship

Repetitions  
It was good  
Night & Day

Call to Worship = entering a Sacred Space

Spiritual view of the world

Orders our worldview

Reflection of God ordering Creation

Not ORDER like we order

We classify, put things  
into phyla, species, hierarchies  
Create lists, categories,  
ordered processes

We give orders &

Expect Creation to

conform



# GOD ORDERS CREATION: FORMS US IN RELATION

## God creates, separates, gives life

Fretheim - That the Bible begins with Genesis, not Exodus, with Creation, not redemption, is of immeasurable importance for understanding all that follows.

## 3 WAYS GOD FORMS US - Creatively, Relationally AND CREATION Through the Good.

### Creatively Formed

Chaotic, Organically (Formless; void)

God's creativity is diverse, polymorphic, open to change, variable, adaptable

Often only predictable by looking back

### Gen 1:31

Marble → David

Great Ape → Human  
Bonobo

Mold → Penicillin

### Ps 98:7-9a

### Relationally Formed

1:3-5 = 1:14-17 • 1st; 4th Day

1:9 = 1:20-23 • 2nd; 5th Day

1:10-13 = 1:24-25 • 3rd; 6th Day

1:26-31 = Creation of Human Kind

Created to be in relation w/ Creation: God

Order is thriving, teeming, swarming, frothing - mirror for relationships



# Jesus - how to live in relationship w/ Created Order

Matthew 20:25-28

## Giving orders vs. living in God's order

Fretheim - All creatures of God together constitute a community in relationship. More particularly, human beings are understood, not as isolated creatures, but as part of a global community... Everyone; everything are in relationship; reality is relational.

We think we separate things  
But God is in relationship w/ all things

Philippians 4:4

JOY

Psalms 145:15-17

HUMILITY

FORMED BY:

## Through the Good

God "saw that it was very good"

A consciousness rooted in God =

A consciousness rooted in Creation

All the plants, animals, swimming, crawling things, flying creatures

& US - ARE ALL CREATED in Goodness

Auggie - "in as much as we exist, we are good"

we do not begin in SIN, BROKENNESS, FEAR

Journey of Faith begins in GOODNESS

Ps 36:6 → GEN 1:27 image of God

we are out of sync w/ Creation  
Koyanigatsi

HURRICANES  
FIRES  
FLOODS



# Sabbath

Only by taking the time to enjoy  $\Theta$ 's  
Creation: Know ourselves as Created  
beings do we deepen our relationship  
w/  $\Theta$ :  $\Theta$ 's goodness, relational ways: creati

Do this by honoring 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment  
The 7<sup>th</sup> Day - GEN 2:2-3

7<sup>th</sup> Day never ends.

We live into  $\Theta$ 's continuing  
Creation

Creatively

Relationally

Through the Good

Rom 11:36<sup>33-</sup>

REV 4:11

Ralph Waldo Emerson

- Ever fresh the broad creation

A divine improvisation

From the heart of God proceeds

A single will, a million deeds