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Today's message has been prepared by David Kai. David and spouse, Marly Bown are our Voluntary Associate Ministers (VAMs).

"The heavens declare the glory of God" Psalm 19: 1a

Hello everyone,

Although we are your VAMs, we must begin by apologizing that we have not seen you much lately. Snowbirding, visiting with family and friends and filling in at other congregations occupy us for much of the year. We are honoured that Kate has asked us to help keep in touch during this time of physical isolation. We are well and hope that you are all managing well during this unprecedented time in our history.

A few weeks ago I made a Facebook post saying, "Of course I believe in multiple universes: I have a library." I meant it less in the sense of theoretical physics, and more in the sense of the many worlds that the arts take us into. Not only books, but music, pictures, art, movies - and fortunately these days we have libraries online as well.

This past month has been difficult in some ways, but as an introvert, being isolated and left with my own thoughts is not a hardship. I have been taken into other worlds by a number of books:

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

The Kitchen by John Ota (a childhood friend)

Eternal Life: A New Vision by John Shelby Spong, (a book which I borrowed from someone at church and should have returned long ago!)

I have been also been taken into other worlds by watching or rewatching wonderful musical endeavors such as The Phantom of the Opera (2011), concerts by Joni Mitchell, the Beatles, Choir!Choir!Choir! and so many more.

As I have been immersed in all these works of art, I am always astounded by God's gift of creativity, generously shared with so much of the creation. I hope that this time of isolation has also given you the opportunity to explore many of the beautiful creations of God's creatures in God's world.

Grace to you, and peace,

David

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*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*

