

Monday, 19 April 2021 – Weekly Inspiration from Rev. Jason

In our little corner of the world this past week, everything has been yellow. The pollen has been everywhere and ever-present, at times so thick in the air that you could see it floating along in great billows. Were it not for seasonal allergies, it might almost be a thing to marvel at! But as I drove through a cloud of it one afternoon this past week, I thought about how it gets everywhere - on cars & porches, patio furniture, clothing, hands. You can barely move without contacting the dusting of pollen, nor can you breathe without inhaling it. It's everywhere, it's pervasive, and nothing keeps it out.

And as soon as I had these thoughts, I realized: that's just the way God's grace is, too.

Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, and now as his Easter people, we have been given the gift of a grace that is everywhere and ever-present. You can barely move without contacting God's grace, nor can you breathe without inhaling it. It's everywhere. It's pervasive, and nothing keeps it out.

As Paul - one who knew full well the power and presence of grace! - writes to the Church in Rome, "For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 5:19-21, NRSV).

Similarly, writing to the Church in Corinth, Paul says, "Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 4:15, NRSV).

Even more than the ubiquitous nature of the Virginia pollen is the presence of God's grace, for the benefit of the world and the glory of the Kingdom. Let us, then, live with thanksgiving into the life set before us. All through grace.

Prayer: Risen Lord, by your Spirit may I live as one defined by your grace, today and in the days to come. And may this grace extend through me to all I encounter, that they may see you more clearly, as well. Amen.