PORCHES & WELCOME MATS



FEBRUARY 2023

PRESENTED BY STOP BREATHE BELIEVE® & DIANNE MORRIS JONES

THE PORCH OF WELCOME

A POEM BY ROGER C JONES



CONTINUED ON THE NEXT SLIDES

Let's say the porch has a grey rocking chair that sits and welcomes you for a stay—

Maybe, the welcome offers you a time to share the wonder of nature, the serenity of her elegance, the majesty of her motifs

Conceivably, the welcome is for you to stop, close your eyes, breathe slowly, focus on the now, and pray or meditate enlightened thoughts

It could be, that you extend a welcome for that long-neglected gathering of friends to share time, laughter, experiences, and cheer

Perhaps, there's a call for your welcoming love for someone struggling, needing comfort to assuage their suffering

It might be, you are welcomed to ponder a difficulty, something that eludes your understanding, leaves you profoundly lost

Or possibly, a chance for change tosses you an opportunity to consider a bold move in a new but uncertain direction

Generally, a welcome lasts
until it does not...leaving us
ample occasions for the offering
and acceptance of many welcomes

—And know that, the porch of welcome doesn't need a rocking chair, it could be anywhere. As we welcome in the month of February, I will be sharing various poetic offering to provoke reflection. To read the complete Blog, go to www.diannemorrisjones.com. Each day I will invite you to read words of inspiration from one of three writers, John Roedel, Father Thomas Keating and Roger Jones. May the words and images offer you a moment to pause and take time to ponder the depth and the beauty of the various words and imagery.



Photo taken along California Coast.

"You are somebody's front porch to God." — John Roedel



"You are someone's doorway to mercy."

John Roedel

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Providence, Rhode Island.



"You are the world's threshold to kindness."

John Roedel

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.



"You are my entrance to letting go of regret."

- John Roedel

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken at Red Rock Lake, Iowa.

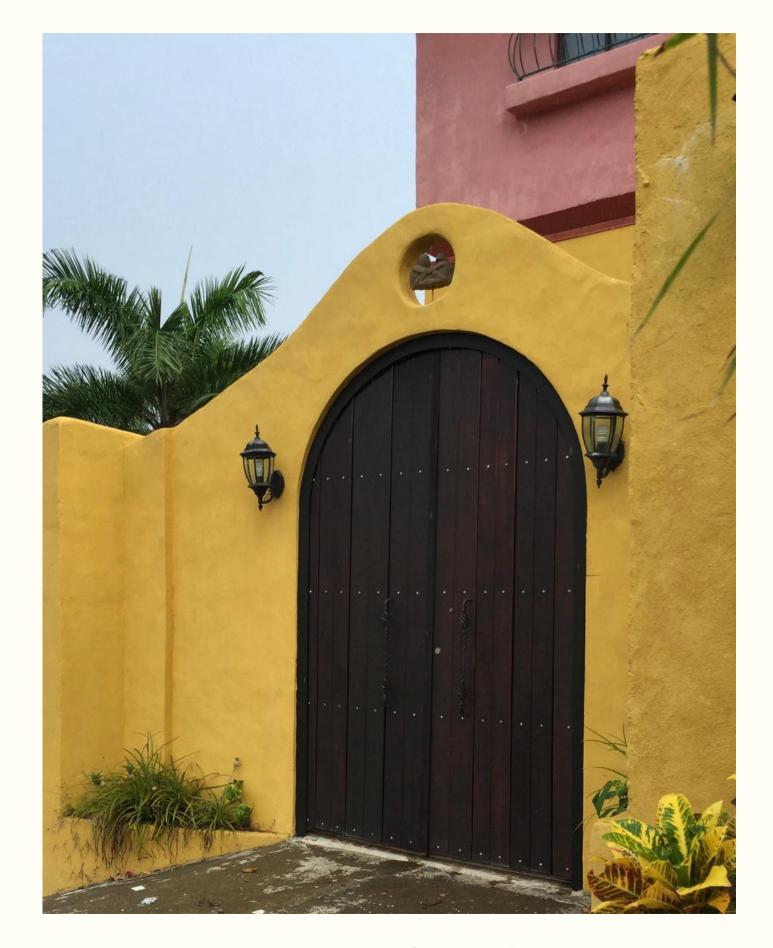


Photo taken in Costa Rica.

"No pressure, but...

Your life is a gateway to peace
for both strangers and friends alike."

— John Roedel



"Whether you realize it or not...

Empathy has chosen you to turn your heart into a welcome mat for others."

— John Roedel

Photo taken in Anna Maria, Florida.



Photo taken in California.

"This is purpose of your life...

To let your existence become a candlelit veranda of hope for the rest of us to gather on during the long night."

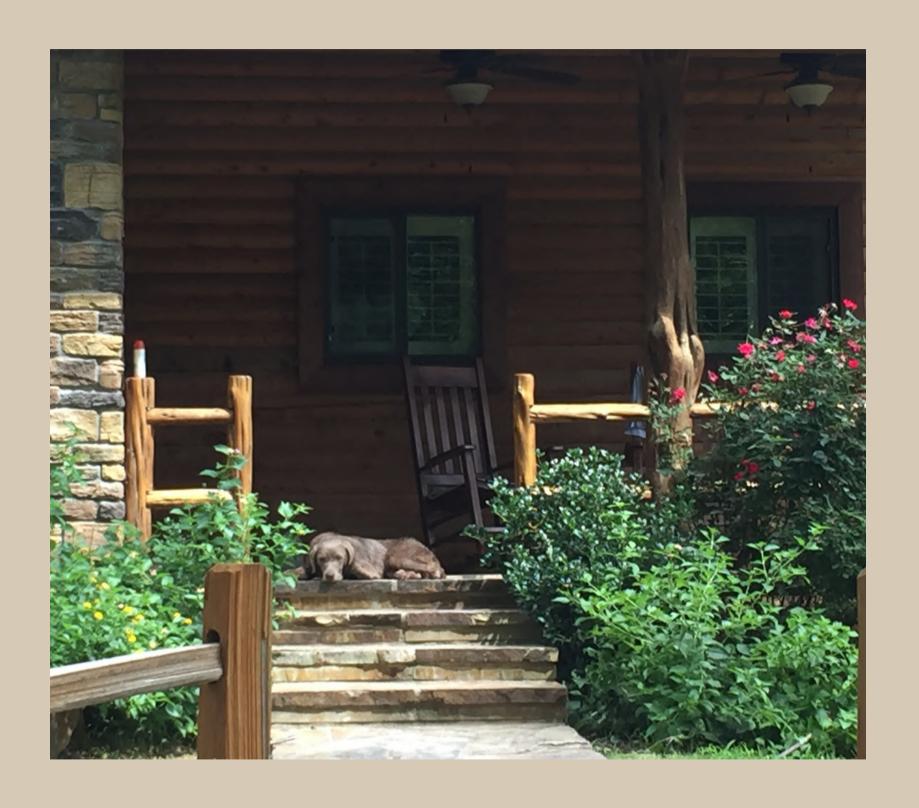
John Roedel



Photo taken in St Paul, Minnesota.

"Welcome, welcome, welcome."

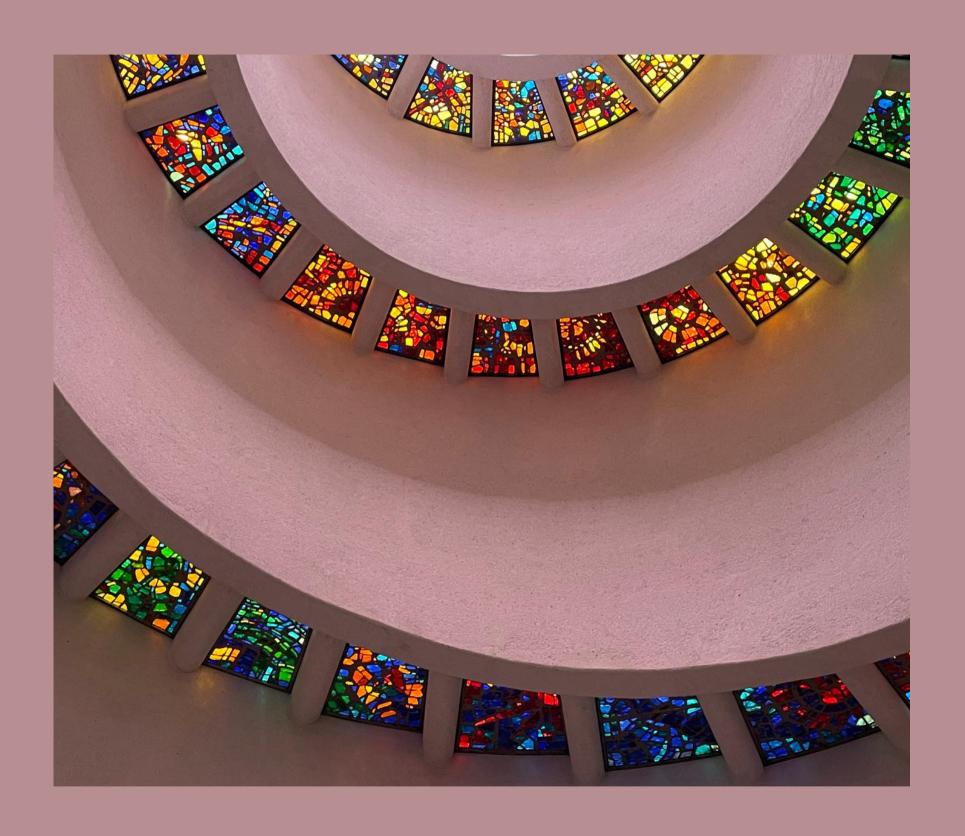
- Father Thomas Keating



"I welcome everything that comes to me today, because I know it's for my healing. I welcome all thoughts, feelings, emotions, persons, situations, and conditions."

- Father Thomas Keating

Photo taken in Waco, Texas.

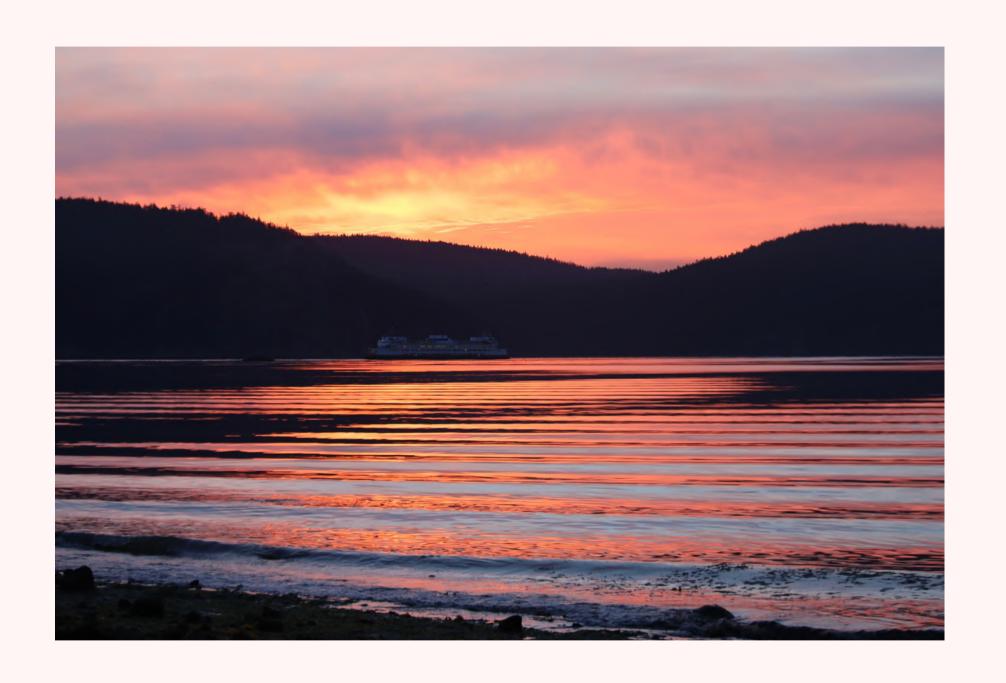


"I let go of my desire for power and control."

- Father Thomas Keating

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken at Thanksgiving Square, Dallas, Texas.



Day II

"I let go of my desire for affection, esteem, approval, and pleasure."

- Father Thomas Keating

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Lopez Island, Washington.

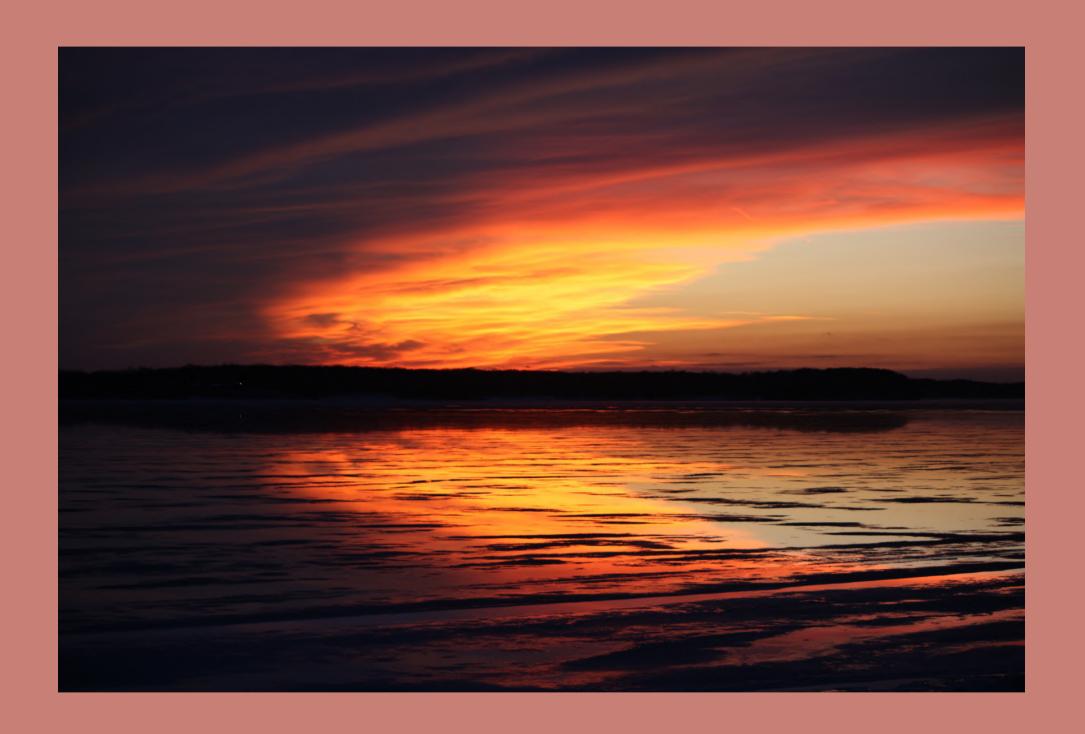


Photo taken at Red Rock Lake, Iowa.

"I let go of my desire for survival and security."

- Father Thomas Keating

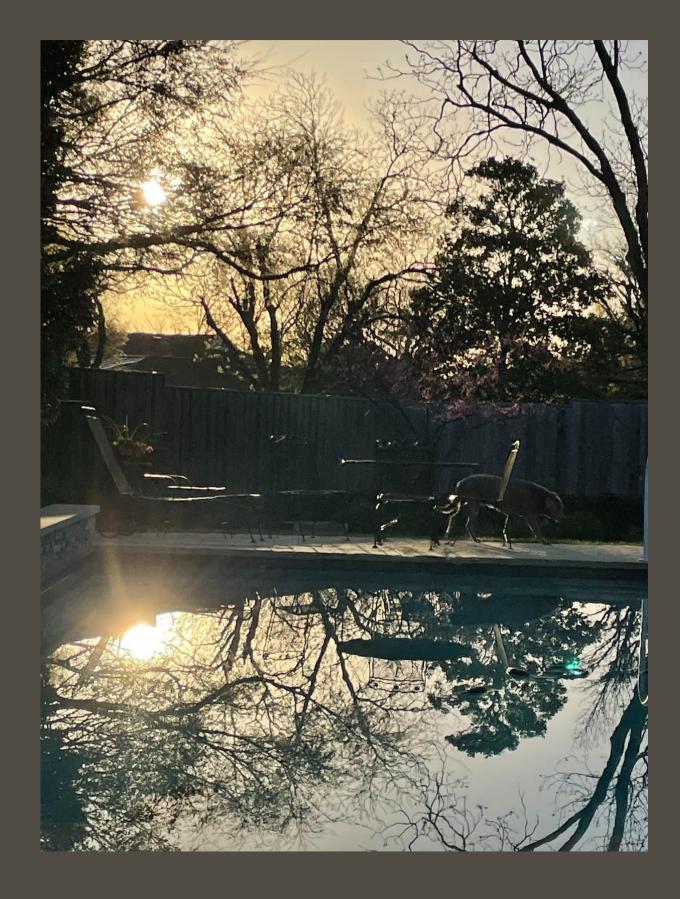


"I let go of my desire to change any situation, condition, person or myself."

- Father Thomas Keating

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken at Red Rock Lake, Iowa.



"I open to the love and presence of God and God's action within. Amen."

- Father Thomas Keating

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.



"Let's say the porch has a grey rocking chair that sits and welcomes you for a stay"

Roger Jones

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.



"Maybe, the welcome offers you a time to share the wonder of nature, the serenity of her elegance, the majesty of her motifs"

Roger Jones

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken at Yosemite National Park, California.



"Conceivably, the welcome is for you to stop, close your eyes, breathe slowly, focus on the now, and pray or meditate enlightened thoughts"

Roger Jones

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Burbank, California.

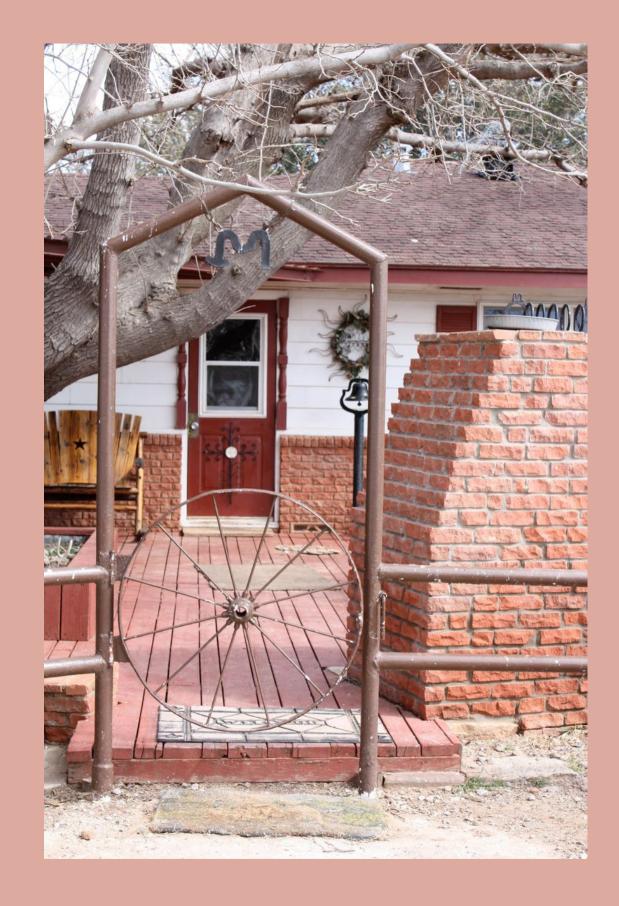


Photo taken at Anchor M Ranch, Round Timbers, Texas.

"It could be, that you extend a welcome for that long-neglected gathering of friends to share time, laughter, experiences, and cheer" – Roger Jones



"Perhaps, there's a call for your welcoming love for someone struggling, needing comfort to assuage their suffering" — Roger Jones

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.



Photo taken in Dallas, TX

"It might be, you are welcomed to ponder a difficulty, something that eludes your understanding, leaves you profoundly lost"

Roger Jones

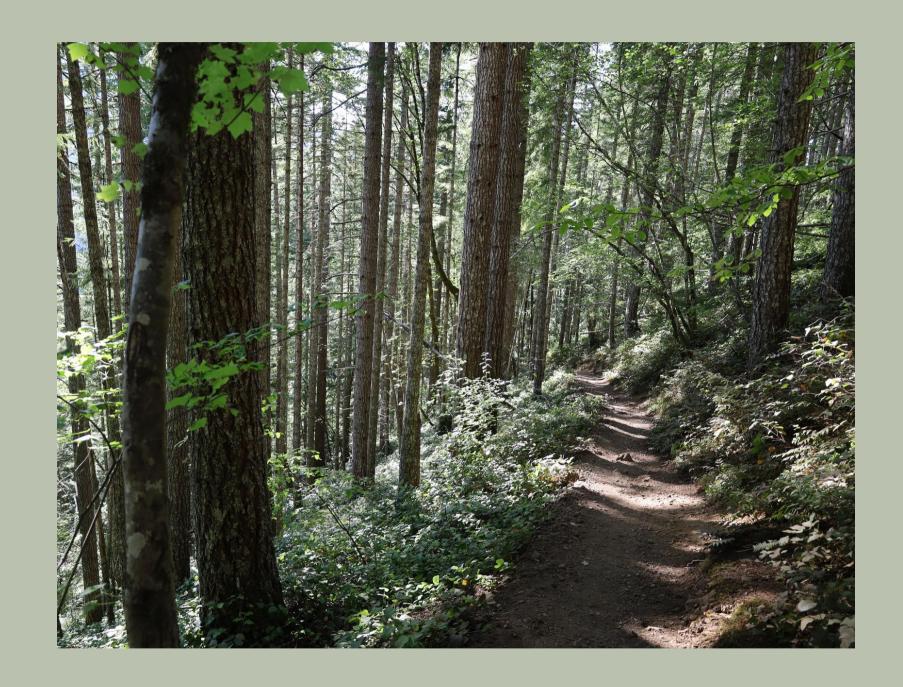


Photo taken in Olympic National Park, Washington.

"Or possibly, a chance for change tosses you an opportunity to consider a bold move in a new but uncertain direction"

Roger Jones



"Generally, a welcome lasts until it does not...leaving us ample occasions for the offering and acceptance of many welcomes"

Roger Jones

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.



"-And know that, the porch of welcome doesn't need a rocking chair, it could be anywhere."

- Roger Jones

Photo taken on Mackinac Island, Michigan.

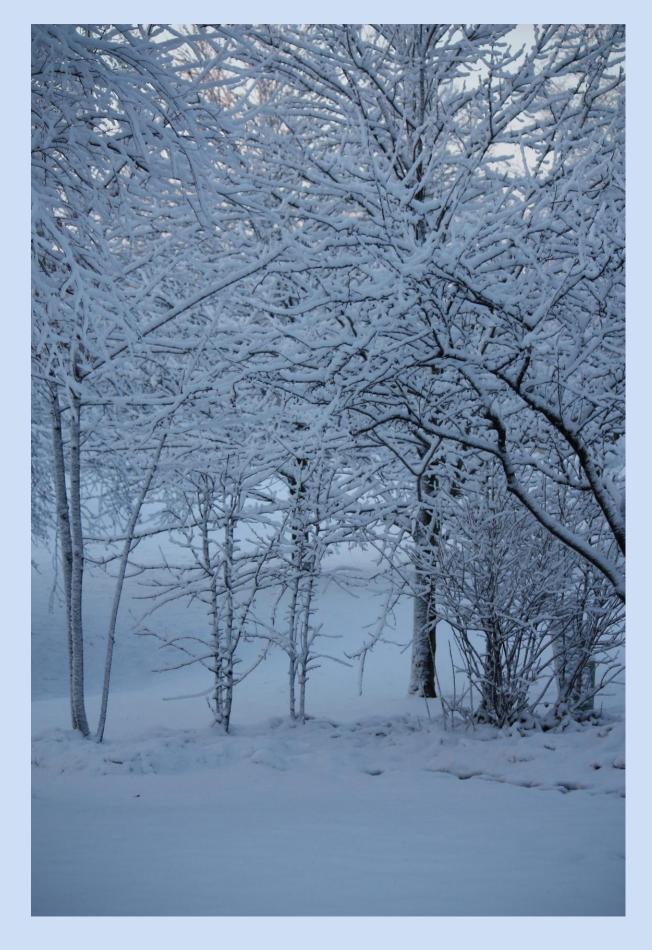


Photo taken in West Des Moines, Iowa.

Day 24

"The environment begins right at your front door."

- Ansel Adams



"A smile is the universal welcome."

- Max Eastman

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in Nepal.



Photo taken in Nepal.

"The soul should always stand ajar, ready to welcome the ecstatic experience."

- Emily Dickinson



"Welcome to the present moment. Here.

Now. The only moment there ever is."

– Eckhart Tolle

How does today's image and writing open your heart to an invitation of welcome and reflection?

Photo taken in California.

Photo taken in Dallas, Texas.

Day 28

"Listening is much more than allowing another to talk while waiting our chance to respond. Listening is paying full attention to others and welcoming them into our very beings. The beauty of listening is that those who are listened to start feeling accepted, start taking our words more seriously and discovering their true selves."

- Henri Nouwen