



Pastoral Care

"During my husband's illness and death, I was so impressed with the care and help provided by Providence Pastoral Care. Many visits were made to us while he was in the hospital and later in two different rehab centers.

Although my husband had planned his funeral, pastoral care helped with several adjustments and changes that were needed. After the funeral, I received several calls to see how I was holding up and if I needed further help. I am very grateful that our church provides this caring and supportive ministry."

“What Pastoral Care Means to Me”

- Being able to talk to a Christian about private things when people are sick.
- Having someone to come to my home for comfort when I am sick or need some healing from the bible.
- Having someone to visit me when I am in the hospital or in rehab.
- Having someone to help with getting my house in order as I get older.
- Having a person be with me, talk with me, and be my friend in Christ.

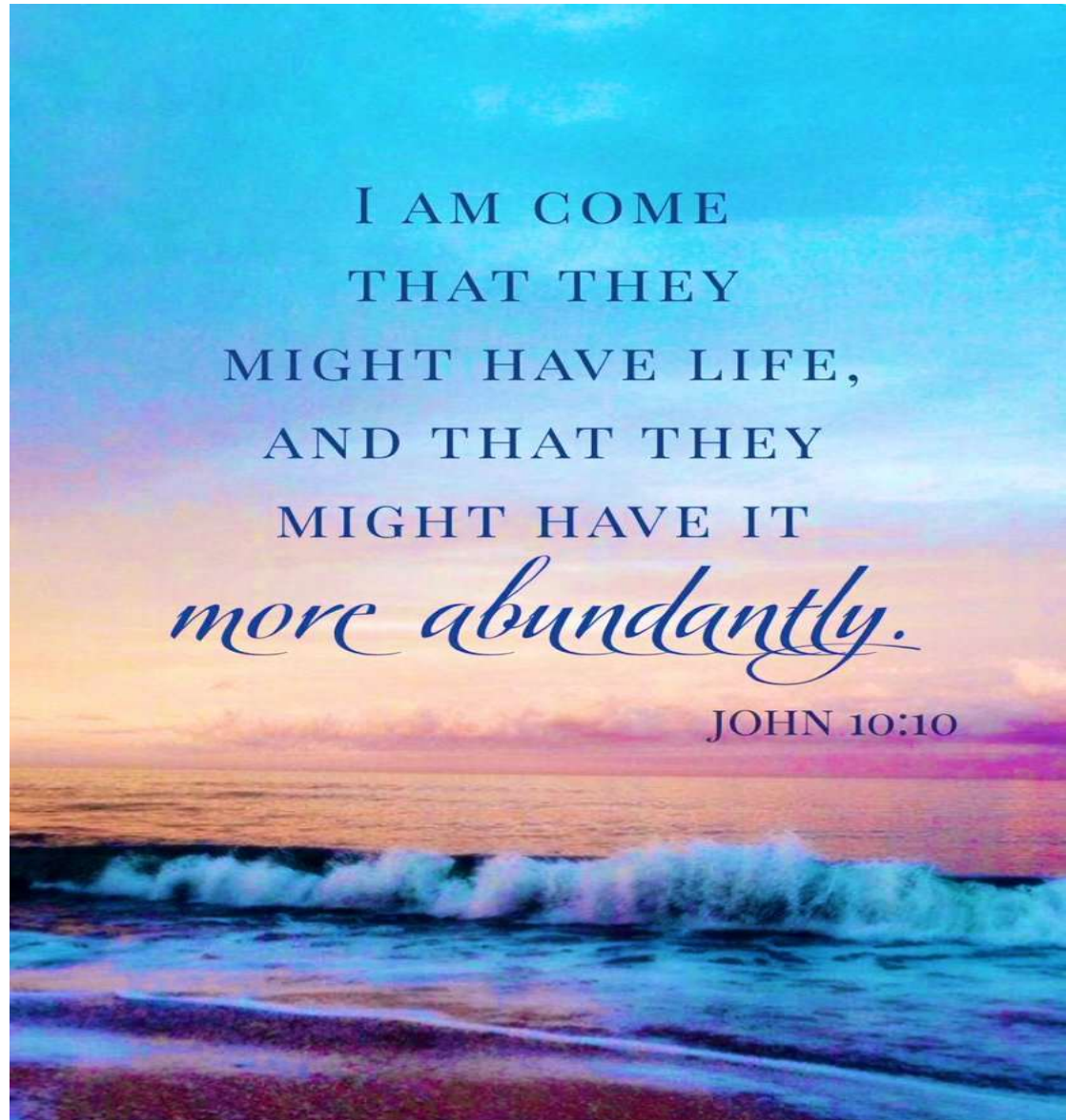
"When I add my family members to the prayer list, I know that they are being prayed for by Providence members because they continue to intentionally ask about their health and how we are doing.

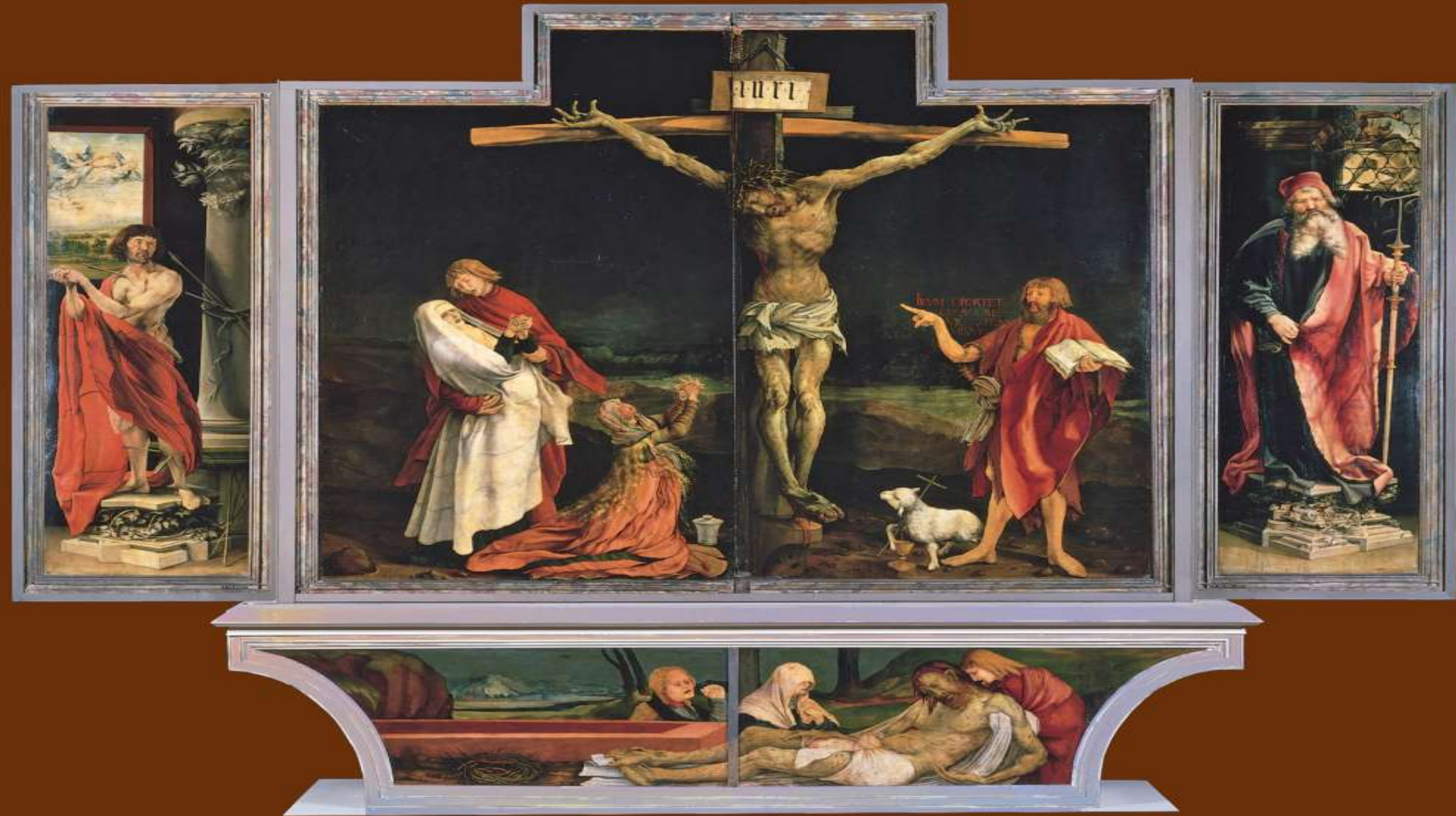
Karen Miller has sent cards to my family in California to let them know they are being prayed for which has meant the world to us. It makes a difference to know that our faith community supports us and our loved ones during difficult times when we need additional strength from those around us."



I AM COME
THAT THEY
MIGHT HAVE LIFE,
AND THAT THEY
MIGHT HAVE IT
more abundantly.

JOHN 10:10

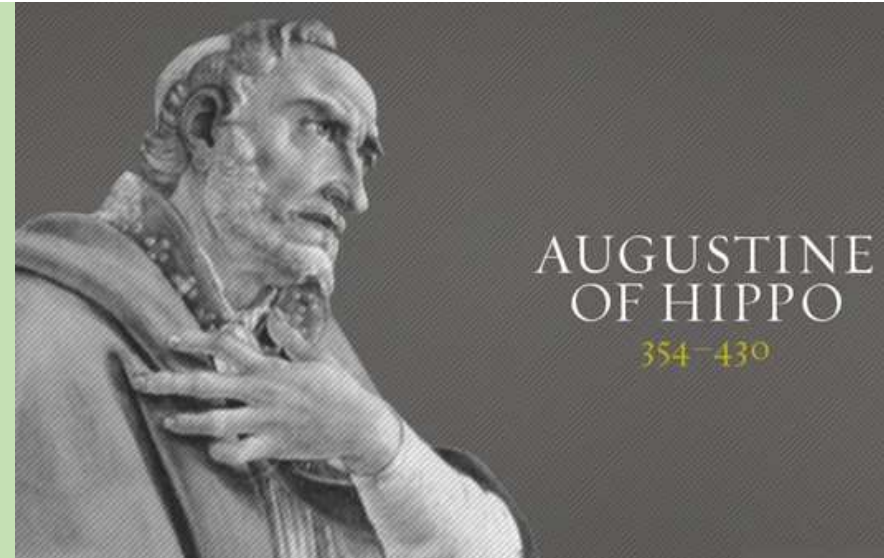




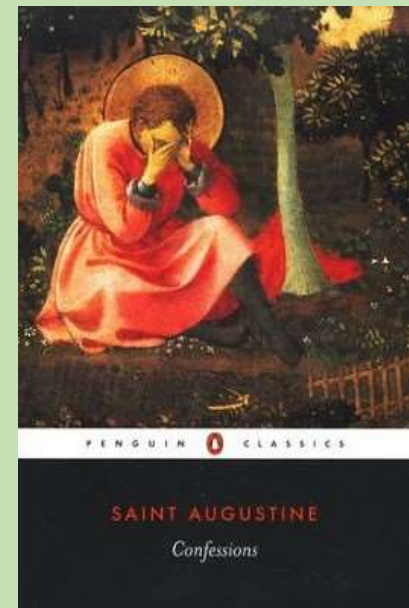


ILLUM OPORTET
CRESCERE.
ME AUTEM
MINUI:

Augustine was one of the most influential and brilliant theologians in church history. He lived around 400 A.D. on the north coast of Africa when it was dominated by Roman rule. His contributions to theology and his leadership in the church were incredibly important.



When Augustine was young, he was struck by how many people were discontent, without joy, and lacked fulfillment. Even those who indulged in pleasure, consumed entertainment, and had endless wealth were joyless and hollow. He realized something: human beings have their priorities out of order and they love the wrong things.



This became Augustine's core definition of sin in his classic work *Confessions*: sin comes from wrongly ordered love. When we elevate the wrong things (or the right things in the wrong amount or at the wrong time) to the prime place in our heart, we are committing idolatry. Augustine taught that living a life of virtue is the process of **rightly ordering** our loves.

Examine your own life. Are the things you love in the right order? Is God your supreme love, followed by a sacrificial love for others? Jesus said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” (Matthew 22:37-40)

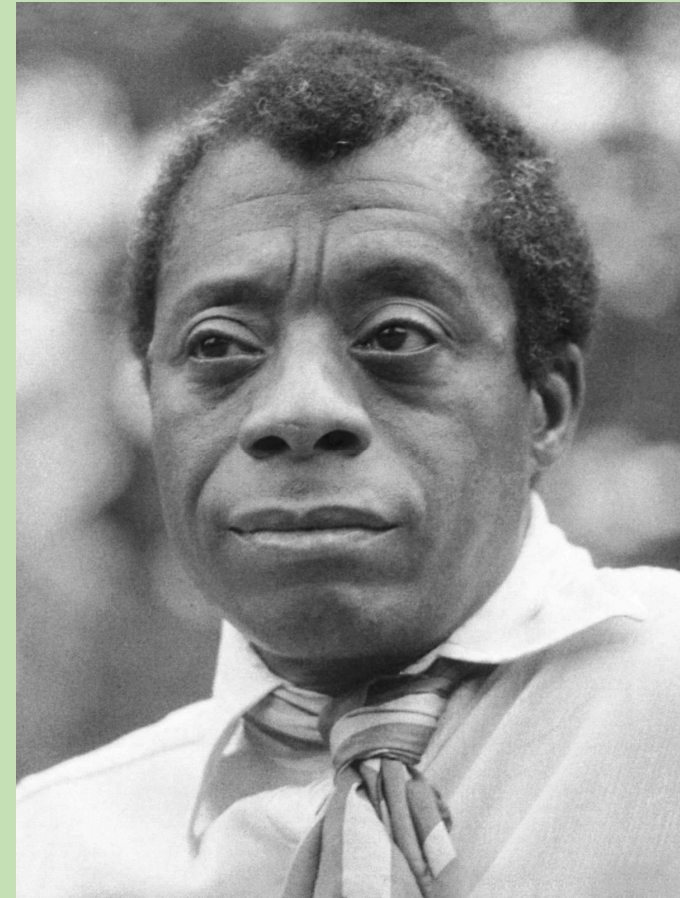


Greater love
has no one than this:
to lay down one's life
for one's friends.

John 15:13

“It seems to me that one ought to rejoice in the fact of death -- ought to decide, indeed, to earn one’s death by confronting with passion the conundrum of life. One is responsible to life: It is the small beacon in that terrifying darkness from which we come and to which we shall return.”

-- James Baldwin, “The Fire Next Time”





Father Ronald Rolheiser
Author/Theologian/Priest

Like Jesus, we too are meant to give our lives away in generosity and selflessness, but we are also meant to give our deaths away, not just at the moment of our deaths, but in a whole process of leaving this planet in such a way that our diminishment and death is our final, and perhaps greatest, gift to the world. This is not easy. Walking in discipleship behind the master will require that we too sweat blood and feel 'a stone's throw' from everybody. This struggle, to give our deaths away, constitutes Radical Discipleship.



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES:
GROWING DEEP ROOTS

Friedrich Nietzsche



The essential thing 'in heaven and earth' is that there should be a long obedience in the same direction; there thereby results, and has always resulted in the long run, something which has made life worth living.

COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

A LONG OBEDIENCE

EUGENE H. PETERSON

IN THE SAME

DIRECTION

DISCIPLESHIP IN AN
INSTANT SOCIETY



Above all trust in the slow work of God.
Only God could say what this new spirit
gradually forming within you will be.
Give our Lord the benefit of believing
that His hand is leading you, and accept
the anxiety of feeling yourself in
suspense and incomplete.

— *Pierre Teilhard de Chardin* —



STEPHEN A. MACCHIA
FOREWORD BY MARK BUCHANAN

*An
Invitation to
the Well-Ordered Way*

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An Invitation to the
Christian Spiritual Life

MARJORIE J. THOMPSON

*With Forewords by
Barbara Brown Taylor and Henri J. M. Nouwen*

20TH ANNIVERSARY
REVISED EDITION

CREATING A
LIFE WITH
GOD



THE CALL OF ANCIENT PRAYER PRACTICES
DANIEL WOLPERT

FIVE WISHES[®]

The Person I Want to Make Care Decisions for Me When I Can't

The Kind of Medical Treatment I Want or Don't Want

How Comfortable I Want to Be

How I Want People to Treat Me

What I Want My Loved Ones to Know

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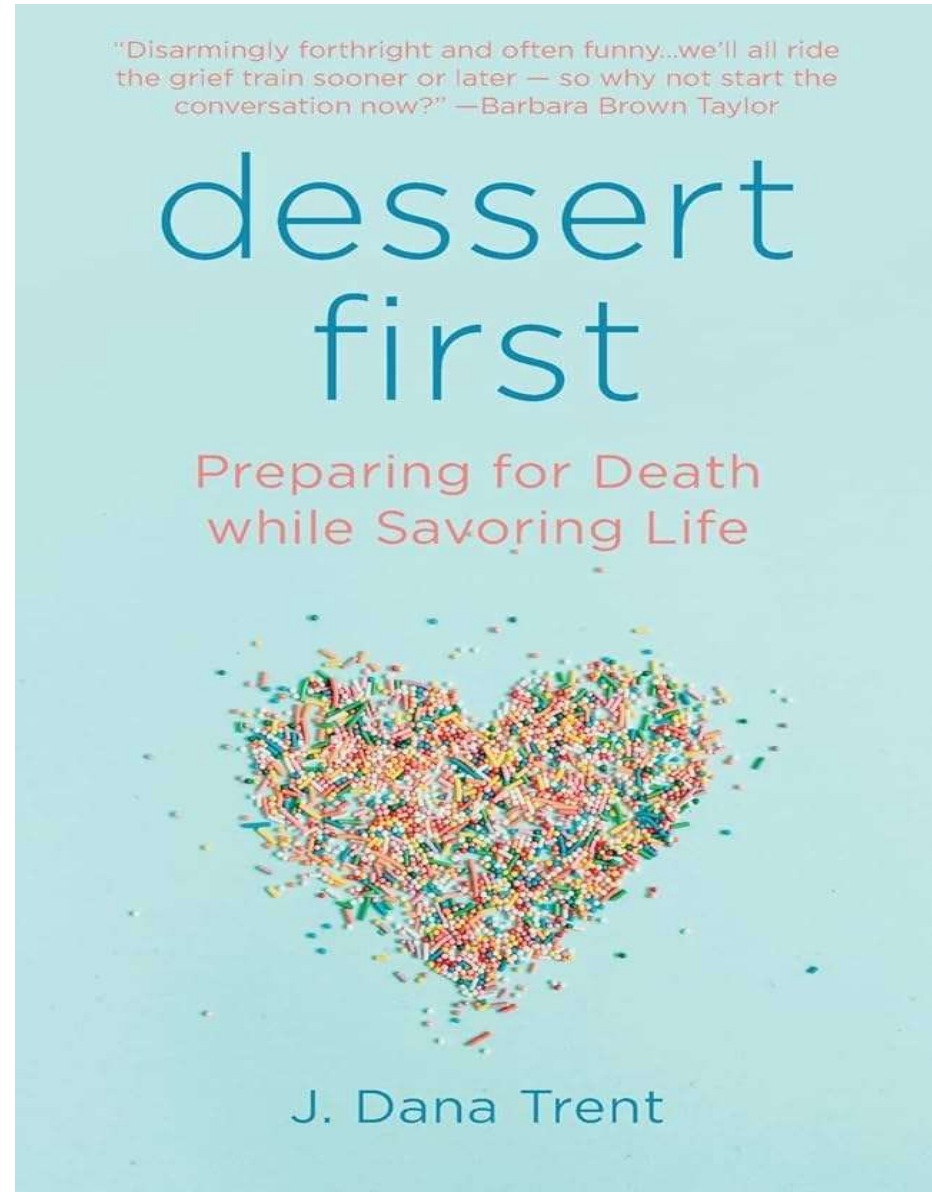
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The Summer Day

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean—
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down—
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

