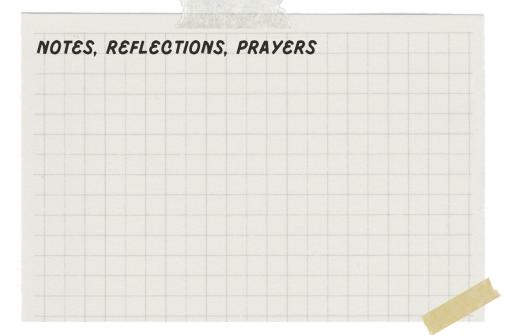


SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK

(ARIZONA)

Saguaro cacti are perhaps one of the most recognized symbols of the American West. When seen in person, they are magnificent and imposing growing over 50 feet tall and weighing up to eight tons. But saguaro are also very fragile - with sometimes only one seed from a plant surviving to grow. A saguaro's best chance of survival is growing in the shadow of a "nurse tree" which can provide shade from the desert sun and protection from passing animals. As part of the community of God, we are called to give and to receive nurturing and care. Jesus tells us that caring for one another (friends and strangers alike) is what our faith is all about.



READ

Psalm 121:5-7 Matthew 25:31-45

REFLECT

From whom have you received nurture in your life?

How has that nurture affected your life and made you who you are?

Who do you know who could benefit from some nurture from you?

PRAY

God of All Creation,

May I speak love in your name. May I speak peace in your name. May I speak justice in your name. May I speak care in your name. Give me the willingness to feed the hungry, to care for the sick, to visit the imprisoned, to clothe the naked, to give water to the thirsty in your name. Amen.