

# WHERE GOD WANTS TO BE

(an Advent Poem)

Where the understanding is outraged,  
where human nature rebels,  
where our piety keeps a nervous distance:  
there, precisely there, God loves to be;  
there he baffles the wisdom of the wise;  
there he vexes our nature, our religious instincts.  
There he wants to be, and no one can prevent him.  
Only the humble believe him and rejoice  
that God is so free and grand,  
that he works wonders where man loses heart,  
that he makes splendid what is slight and lowly.  
Indeed, this is the wonder of wonders,  
that God loves the lowly.  
'God has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.'  
God in lowliness –  
that is the revolutionary, the passionate word of Advent.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
*The Mystery of Holy Night*  
p. 8

**Read** [read passage twice]

Silence 3-5 minutes\* - silently repeat a word or phrase that interests you...

Sharing aloud (if in group): Simply share the word or phrase that spoke to you. No elaboration.

**Reflect** [read once]

Silence 3-5 minutes - reflecting on "Where does this touch my life?"

Sharing aloud: "I hear, I see, I was struck by..."

**Respond** [read once]

Silence 3-5 minutes - reflecting on "How is God calling me to Respond?"

Sharing aloud: Briefly pray - spontaneously expressing your response to God's call.

**Rest** [read once]

Rest in God's grace, in silence 2-3 minutes

\*The time allotted for each period of silence can vary.

DRS  
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