

Mid-Week Meditation
June 17, 2020
Rev. Mark McLennan
New St. James Presbyterian Church



You probably don't recognize this woman.

She had an interesting early life – restaurant worker, stand-up comedian, alcoholic, substance abuser, outsider.

Her name is Nadia Bolz-Weber and she is a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, an outspoken feminist, and an award-winning author.

She has tattoos that represent the Church year, and various stories in the Gospels.

She started a church called the House for All Sinners and Saints, made up of many LGBTQ members, street people, people with addictions, people with no faith, and a drag queen she calls a “Minister of Fabulousness”.

I have heard her interviewed, and she is a fascinating sister in Christ.

In the midst of this weirdness, she wrote this prayer:

I do not know when we can gather together again in worship, Lord.

So, for now I just ask that:

When I sing along in my kitchen to each song on Stevie Wonder's Songs in The Key of Life Album, that it be counted as praise. (Happy 70th Birthday, SW!)

And that when I read the news and my heart tightens in my chest, may it be counted as a Kyrie.

And that when my eyes brighten in a smile behind my mask as I thank the cashier, may it be counted as passing the peace.

And that when I water my plants and wash my dishes and take a shower, may it be counted as remembering my baptism.

And that when the tears come and my shoulders shake and my breathing falters, may it be counted as prayer.

And that when I stumble upon a Tabitha Brown video and hear her grace and love of you, may it be counted as hearing a homily.

And that as I sit at that table in my apartment, and eat one more homemade meal, slowly, joyfully, with nothing else demanding my time or attention, may it be counted as communion. Amen.