

July 17, 2022

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Luke 10:38-42

Word and Work

In today's scripture, two sisters welcome Jesus into their home. Martha bustles about, working in the kitchen and at the table. Mary serves in another way, by deeply listening and learning, growing in her faith and understanding. Within each of us there is both a Mary and a Martha. At times we are ready to work and act, and at times we yearn to learn and grow.

To tend to your inner Mary, put a book or two from The Pilgrim Press on your summer reading list. The United Church of Christ's Pilgrim Press is a bold voice with a rich heritage. The oldest English language publishing tradition in North America, The Pilgrim Press publishes books that nurture spiritual growth, cultivate religious leadership, and provoke the soul for the sake of a just world.

A Pilgrim Press classic, *Water Bugs and Dragonflies*, will be released in a 50th anniversary edition this summer. This gentle guide to talking to children about death, and the mystery of what happens afterwards, includes additional reflections by author Doris Stickney.

You may also want to check out *Intentional Leadership* by Sarah B. Drummond. Drummond serves as Founding Dean of Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School, and she writes and teaches extensively about leadership and ministry in formation.

Also, look for *Fat Church*, coming out this summer from The Pilgrim Press. We are all made in the image of God, or the *imago dei*. This book is a critique of how the church participates in fat shaming and diet culture in ways that contradict our foundational belief in *imago dei*.

We are all pilgrims, striving after insight in life and faith. There is within each of us a Mary, wanting only to learn and grow. The Pilgrim Press is a daring adventurer and trusted companion along the way, bearing testimony that there is "more truth and light yet to break forth."