

Isaiah 35:1-4; Psalm 1

Last week I did something I've not done before. I brought my hanging baskets and flowerpots inside for the winter. Usually, I am resigned to the cycle of the seasons and I allow them to die. This year I decided to try to keep them alive during the winter. Four hanging baskets of vibrant flowers now adorn my study, and herbs are next to the kitchen. They look a little scraggly and not all of them are blooming, but they are alive. It is my way of fostering life even in a barren time, and they are a continual reminder of God's beauty and hope. Isaiah tells us, "The desert and parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom" (Isaiah 35:1). In Psalms we hear that a righteous person is like a tree planted by streams of water (Psalm 1:3). Jesus' is our stream of water, our source of life in the wilderness. He brings life even to a land parched with upheaval, uncertainty, and fear. May God's righteousness through you bring life to those around you as Jesus replenishes your soul.

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*Pastor Wayne Price
Trenton Faith*

