

Beginnings . . .
Or, is it endings . . .
I'm never quite sure
For they are so intimately connected
Cross-pollinating one another as they do
Coming one after another:
A class has its final to be followed by the next in a major
A semester ends, a new semester is beginning
The collegiate journey ends, new work begins.
What I am sure about
There are no new beginnings without endings,
That is simply the nature of the beast;
There is no beginning that doesn't have an end out there.

We might find traces of the new beginnings
Before we reach any end, like
We might actually have a job before we graduate.
Often endings arrive too soon
Without any apparent new beginning.
In this, I suspect, U2 has it right when Bono sings:
"Time is irrelevant, not linear."
Endings and beginnings are woven together
In non-linear fashion.
Occasionally chosen,
More likely thrown together
Like dirty clothes into the laundry basket,
Beginnings and endings are eternal and tidal.
We are all in our endings.
We are all in our beginnings.

This is resurrection-time
For the friends of Jesus,
The unyielding cross, a clear ending,
Makes way for an empty tomb,
Filling followers with fear.
It is no surprise that Jesus' first words
Include "Fear not" and "Peace be with you"
In the end the beginning.

So, we move on
Into the beginnings each end offers
Peace, friends, and thanks for the beautiful accompaniment
Of the faithful, remain so with each beginning.

Grace University Lutheran Church at 8:30 or 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM - Lautum
University Lutheran Church of Hope at 8:30 and 10:30 AM
Mercy Seat at 5 PM (at ULC Hope)
Trinity Lutheran Church (at Augsburg's Chapel) at 8:45 or 11 AM.

Peace, friends

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