

**POETRY READING:** PSALM 104:14–15

**PROSE READING:** LUKE 2:1–7

O King of Joys Eternal,  
today I praise you for small wonders;  
in them I see your delight.

For birds that trill and warble their worship,  
for the verdant witness of windblown leaves,  
and of starlight sparkling, and of sunlit streams,  
and of blooming flowers,

I praise you, O King.  
Your joy is everywhere manifest,  
even in the smallest things.

I praise you, O King,  
for soft beds and blankets,  
for stories and songs,  
for kisses and kindnesses.  
Your tenderness is displayed  
in all things nurturing.

Your mercy in manifest in the details  
of this world, O Lord.  
Your grace is worked into  
every corner of creation.  
For all small wonders,  
I give you thanks and I  
give you praise, O God.

Amen.

AN ENTRY ON

## Praise for Small Things

FROM "A LITURGY FOR  
THURSDAY'S TABLE  
BLESSING"

HE CAUSES GRASS TO GROW  
FOR THE LIVESTOCK  
AND PROVIDES CROPS FOR  
MAN TO CULTIVATE,  
PRODUCING FOOD  
FROM THE EARTH,  
WINE THAT MAKES  
HUMAN HEARTS GLAD—  
MAKING HIS FACE SHINE  
WITH OIL—AND BREAD  
THAT SUSTAINS  
HUMAN HEARTS.  
—PSALM 104:14–15

- Take time to list small things that bring you delight, things for which you might honestly offer praise. Include works of God both tangible and intangible. Thinking through a normal day's schedule may aid in recalling small gifts so easily taken for granted.

- Consider now small moments in your life that have spoken to you of grace. Remember simple encounters, small words and phrases, short glimpses that have communicated the love of God to you.

- Consider the coming of Christ as a newborn. How does this true story of God making himself to be one of the smallest parts of his own creation speak to the Lord's glory manifest even in small things?

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER:**