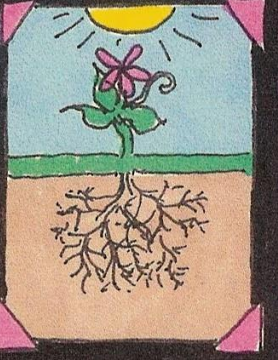
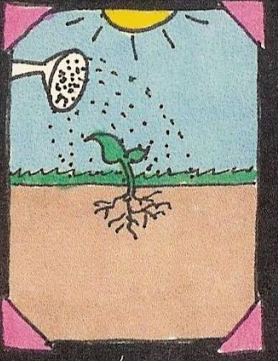
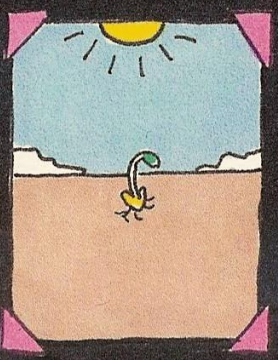


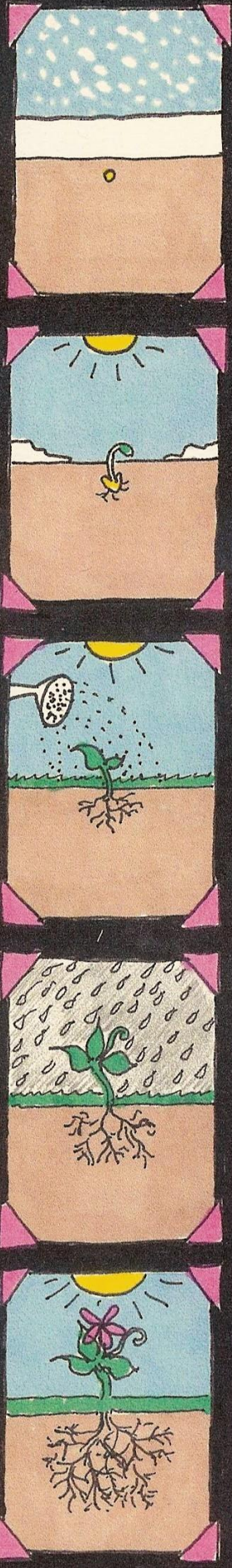
April 12

The forty days of Lent reflect the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, fasting, and praying, before His ministry started. Jesus' time, in turn, reflected the forty years the people of Israel spent wandering in the wilderness, all over the Sinai Peninsula and back, remaking themselves from slaves into a free people.

In Epiphany we read a scripture that is near and dear to my heart, for it is about what happens *after* the wandering. Jesus went to work; the Hebrew people went to conquering the land of Canaan.

Our work is cut out for us, and sitting and waiting. In First Corinthians, we are told that we are Ambassadors for Christ – reconciling the world to God. In Matthew 5:23-24, right in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus is





talking about the shift of internal feelings and motivations creating action in the world.

Ambassadors of reconciliation; reconcilers.

Which means we do the hard work of reconciliation is even more important than worshiping God, according to the example Jesus gives.

With whom do you need to start doing that work? With whom do you have an injured relationship that needs mending?

Lent is a perfect time to go to work, reconciling, bringing together.



Rev. Mary Hubbard