

## **On Generosity**

On our own, we conclude:  
there is not enough to go around  
we are going to run short  
of money  
of love  
of grades  
of publications  
of sex  
of beer  
of members  
of years  
of life

we should seize the day  
seize our goods  
seize our neighbour's goods  
because there is not enough to go around

and in the midst of our perceived deficit  
you come  
you come giving bread in the wilderness  
you come giving children at the eleventh hour  
you come giving homes to exiles  
you come giving futures to the shut down  
you come giving Easter joy to the dead  
you come - fleshed in Jesus.

and we watch while  
the blind receive their sight  
the lame walk  
the lepers are cleansed  
the deaf hear  
the dead are raised  
the poor dance and sing  
we watch  
and we take food we did not grow and  
life we did not invent and  
future that is gift and gift and gift and  
families and neighbours who sustain us  
when we did not deserve it.

It dawns on us - later rather than soon -  
that you "give food in due season  
you open your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every living thing."

By your giving,  
break our cycles of imagined scarcity  
override our presumed deficits  
quiet our anxieties of lack  
transform our perceptual field to see  
the abundance  
mercy upon mercy  
blessing upon blessing.

Sink your generosity deep into our lives  
that your muchness may expose our false lack  
that endlessly receiving we may endlessly give  
so that the world may be made Easter new,  
without greedy lack, but only wonder,  
without coercive need but only love,  
without destructive greed but only praise  
without aggression and invasiveness...  
all things Easter new...  
all around us, toward us and  
by us

all things Easter new.

Finish your creation,  
in wonder, love and praise. Amen.

*Walter Brueggemann*

