Reflection for the Fifth Tuesday After Easter

When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go to the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish."

And he said, "Bring them here to me."

Matthew 14:15-18

Some days I can only offer poems that are part of my daily meditations and cause me to sigh with joy. This is such a poem:

Logos by Mary Oliver

Why wonder about the loaves and fishes?
If you say the right words, the wine expands.
If you say them with love
and the felt ferocity of that love,
and the felt necessity of that love,
the fish explode into the many.
Imagine him, speaking,
and don't worry about what is reality,
or what is plain, or what is mysterious.
If you were there, it was all those things.
Eat, drink, be happy.
Accept the miracle.
Accept too, each spoken word
spoken with love.

Simply enjoy, imagine, place yourself in the assembled crowd. Experience Jesus' love poured out like fine wine. Feel a deep satisfaction and fullness. Accept the small miracles and be fed by them. They are there all around you and in them, in the loves found and lost, Christ is there too. Amen.

Pastor Kate Bottorff