

## The Blessing of Ordinary Time

### Exodus 15: 20-24

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Then Moses ordered Israel to set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter. That is why it was called Marah. And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

When I as 8 years old my grandfather Cashdollar died. It was January or February, and we flew from Texas up to Pennsylvania for the funeral. I remember it was pretty mild in Texas- shorts weather. Not so much in Pennsylvania. In was bitterly cold, and not only was it cold, but there was the promise of snow.

I remember so many things about that time. I remember my Uncle Ken having a hard time swallowing, and my mom and grandma being worried about him. I remember they had a viewing of my grandfather, and I overheard discussion about whether it would be OK for me to see him. It was finally agreed that it was. And I remember the musty smell of the funeral home, everybody dressed nicely and talking in quiet tones, and I remember going up with my brother to see him. And it wasn't frightening at all- he looked so yellow and different from how I knew him, that it almost was like it wasn't really him.

But do you know the thing I remember most? The thing I remember most was feeling guilty. I felt guilty because

