

## Wednesday - April 3

*"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"*

*And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.*

*Matthew 6:25-29*

When I think about my own witness of God's grace I imagine myself being covered in a cloak. I am covered, suddenly warmed, and wrapped safely in comfort and love.

Before I went to seminary I knew that I felt a call to ordained ministry. It wasn't until I was a full-time student at Wesley that I began to discern just exactly what that call meant. Since I had felt the call to ministry at a young age I thought for sure that meant my path was pretty well laid out. I would go to college, engage in my faith, attend seminary and get ordained. Beautiful plan. What they say about seminary though is true; you go in thinking one thing, and once you get out, you've completely changed your understanding. For me, it was changing the understanding of my call. For months I wrestled with this. Why did my call decide to change now? The plan was almost to full fruition, I was in my final year of seminary! When God calls, it's not always in the form of a gentle nudge. The burning passion that I had to bind faith and social justice beyond the walls of the church would not allow me to ignore itself. It wasn't until I met with my mentor, a clergywoman in the Baltimore-Washington conference, that I felt the cloak cover me. She told me to trust where God was leading me; clearly if I spoke about social justice this much it was something to pay attention to. Her affirmation, support and guidance coated me in the relentless grace that God pours over us. I knew then that it was okay things were changing. My discernment was in God's hands, and I was ready to listen.

Hannah

**Prayer:** God grant me the wisdom to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference [Serenity Prayer]. May we find grace in your calling upon our lives, no matter how loud or how gentle a nudge it may be. May we be at peace knowing that the presence of your Holy Spirit will never leave us. Amen