

Moments of Beauty Week 8 - Visual Art

Wednesday, October 28



Franklin Park Conservatory exhibit of Dale Chihuly's glass sculptures. Photo Credit: Jill Olwert

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for any reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body...Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:12-16, 27

Chihuly's art is distinctive. If you have seen it once, you will always recognize it. It is beautiful and striking. One of the hallmarks of this art is designing it to compliment another space. In this setting, the glass sculptures are in one of the conservatory's ponds reminding the viewer of beach balls or fishing buoys on the water. And the other sculptures are mimicking the plant life bordering the pond. It is this combination of nature and art that completes the picture. The apostle Paul says that we are the body of Christ. One unit that is made up of many parts. Even though Chihuly glass is distinctive it is not the only art. Art invites us to reflect on its meaning and often points to a larger or more important message. But we must ponder in order to catch the deeper understanding. How are you participating as a member of the body of Christ? What beauty do you see around you that may be revealing a deeper message?