

# The Lakeside



## Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday January 6, 2025 - Ecclesiastes 3: 1-2

*1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:*

*2 a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,*

Read Ecclesiastes 3 for meditation and inspiration.



AULD LANG SYNE



Happy DAY of EPIPHANY!

**LIVE IN THE MOMENT**

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

This is the day of Epiphany, a word that has come to mean a revelation, a new idea, a clarity in understanding and knowledge, and wisdom from on high.

When a New Year (or what Scots call “Hogmanay”) approaches we have a chance to look back and a chance to look ahead. That is well and good but “This is the day the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it!” Yes, Yesterday is gone, tomorrow is not here but today is God’s gift that is why it is called the “Present”! Enjoy this day, enjoy each day as God gives it to you each and every time fresh and new! Now there can be for you today’s epiphany!

The following poem, entitled "Windows of Wonder," offers us a moving reflection on our approach to the New Year and how to look at this day of God's Grace. In it, the author imagines the following dialogue with the Lord God:

I was regretting the past and fearing the future.  
Suddenly my Lord was speaking:

"My name is I AM" He paused.  
I waited.  
He continued.

"When you live in the past, with its mistakes and regrets, it is hard. I am not there.  
My name is not I WAS.

"When you live in the future, with its problems and fears, it is hard. I am not there.  
My name is not I Will Be.

"When you live in this moment, it is not hard. I am here.  
My name is I AM." -1

In the Book of Exodus, there is a moving account of a dialogue Moses has when he wants to know God's name so he can tell the Israelites. He is hoping that with the clarity of God's name they will believe Him. God answers the request, "Tell the people that I am, who I am. Tell the people that I Am has sent you!" As the poem recounts God is in the present.

May the great "I Am" be with you,



Roger

