



FAITH matters

May 4, 2026

Living in Deep Waters

My favorite statue on the University of Michigan campus is a fountain with Father Triton playing with his sons in the splashing water. It's the title that always spoke to me, especially on a Sunday morning when my sermon wasn't quite ready. It's called "*Sunday Morning in Deep Waters*".

Often it feels like we are living in deep waters—the tears of on-going agony in Ukraine, the flood of gun violence and racial hatred running rampant, the constant stream of misinformation and out-right lies pouring from certain branches of the media. Sure enough, we are living in deep waters.

Here is a prayer from a book called *God is a Verb* by Marilee Zdenek:

What happened to all the easy answers?

Things used to be so black and white.

Things were wrong or they were right.

Then life came along and showed me gray.

I'm having trouble with gray, Lord—

My placid stream of absolutes became a raging river

As more and more black and white became absorbed in gray.

I'm living in the rapids, Lord--

With changing forces all around.

I can't go back to where I was,

When simple answers were enough,

When each cliché made sense to me.

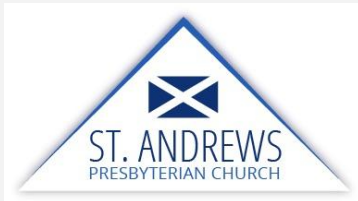
Now in this day of complexity,

*Ambivalence and diversity,
My only total certainty is
You.*

When we are living in deep waters with God being our only certainty,
faith really does matter.

~Written by Rev. John E. Harnish

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