

*Thus says the Lord: Stand in the court of the Lord's house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the Lord; speak to them all the words that I command you; do not hold back a word.*

—Jeremiah 26:2

A lone prophet stands in the temple. God charges Jeremiah to speak and not leave out one word. God's urgent call prevails on the people to follow the ways of God.

Prophets are stewards of God's word. The tradition of prophecy and stewardship is ancient. The Word of God moved over the void calling all things into being. Humankind was given to be stewards of creation, caring for it and ensuring its abundance.

Our natural and spiritual lives depend on our stewardship of all creation. The Word of God still speaks in all realms of creation, bringing about reconciliation and abundant life.

The Christian community knows the prophetic tradition most fully in Jesus Christ. As followers of the living Word, we are heirs of this tradition. At no time in history has the Word been more urgent for us to be stewards taking prophetic steps of care and reconciliation. Our life together depends on it.

—Karen Montagno