Cultivating

> *"Culture is not a territory to be won or lost, but… a garden to be cultivated."*
> *—Makoto Fujimura*

The hugs we give our kids, the prayers we pray;
the ways we serve our parents, spouses, friends;
the sins forgiven, wealth we give away;
the strangers whom we welcome, ways we bend;
the paintings, poems, stories, songs we play;
the time spent listening, the words unsaid—
the mundane faithful acts of each new day,
though sown unseen, produce a garden bed.

You said this world would hate us, wage a war
against your love—and yet you send us forth
as farmers against fortresses: to tend
this fallen garden that you seek to mend.
We know not how your kingdom comes—but sow
in hope that roots and leaves and fruit will grow.

_____

Originally published in Cultivating. Shared with the Worship for Workers Project of Fuller Seminary by Michael Stalcup