

History and Mystery (Isaiah 43:18-19; Matthew 8:22; Matthew 24:42; John 3:8; 2 Corinthians 3:4-6)

Amanda Udis-Kessler, c. 2019

History and mystery, each one in its place
Granting us a future and a past,
Drawing on tradition and open to new grace,
Honoring the first ones and the last.

History and mystery make a greater whole,
Working to ensure that we're complete.
Memory enriches us; wonder moves our souls,
Guiding heart and mind and hands and feet.

Though we are in need of both we are also told,
Leave the dead to put away their dead.
When there is a choice to make, where should we be bold?
Can we choose the mystery instead?

Where the letter limits us, Spirit gives us life
And the Spirit travels where she will.
God is yet creating us, sending truth and light.
If we can stay open to it still.

Though we love the truth we know, something new springs forth,
Something we can hardly yet perceive:
Pathways in the wilderness, tables set for all,
Endless love if we would just believe.

History and mystery: we have room to grow
Even as tradition helps us live.
Let us keep our hearts awake for we do not know
All the gifts that love has yet to give.