



Jan-April 2022



## **Superpowers**

April 6, 2022

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Saturday found me rummaging through memorabilia: a playbill from Chitty-Chitty Bang Bang, museum tickets, and postcards from places I no longer remember. My daughter's school papers and cards to us were in the bundle as well. I pulled out items I thought she might like to preserve. I kept one school paper for myself. Entitled, "My Marvelous Mom," this was an exercise in reading, comprehension, and writing. My daughter needed to fill in the blanks in a sentence, such as:

If my mom were an animal, she would be a rabbit because she can hop.

Truth be told, I'm not much of a hopper, but the sentence makes sense. The one sentence that really caught my attention, however, went this way:

If my mom were a superhero, she would be Wonder Woman because  
she wonders a lot.

Initially I thought her additions were funny because my daughter clearly missed the point about Wonder Woman's special powers. She totally ignored the bracelets and golden lasso. But the more I thought about it, the more I realized how well my daughter had actually captured me. I do wonder a lot. I wonder about snow in April. I wonder about terrible timing. I wonder about aging.

Wondering helps transform problems into opportunities. It puts a pause on our concern or busyness and lets our imagination take over for a bit.

Wonder also grounds us in the holy. From God's signs and wonders among the ancient Israelites to the signs and wonders performed in Jesus' name by the apostles, wondering connects us to a deep well of the inexplicable and awesome. When we pause to wonder at creation or the signs of the Spirit in our midst, we move beyond ourselves and, especially, beyond our limitations.

The Psalmist offers praise for the wonder-full nature of God:

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.

Ps. 139:14 (NRSV). I'm not sure that "wondering" qualifies as a superpower, but it can be a powerful agent of change. Plus it's easier to come by than a truth-compelling lasso.

As we continue our journey to Jerusalem, may you, too, be filled with wonder.