



THURSDAY, MARCH 14

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;
and so you renew the face of the earth.

— Psalm 104:31

Animal, Vegetable, Miracle is Barbara Kingsolver's account of her family's year-long adventure in eating exclusively local food that they raised, grew or bought from local farmers. The word miracle says it all to me. It is only as an adult that I have become a passionate gardener. And, it is still a miracle to me when my perennials come back every spring after dying in the fall. It is a miracle when new raspberry canes start shooting up as the old ones are spent. It is a miracle when I plant a few tiny seeds and they grow into so much spinach that I give it away to the neighbors. It is a miracle when my food scraps turn into rich compost.

Yes, I do know that these are not technically "miracles," not like Jesus giving sight to the blind. Still, I can't help but be filled with awe at the way God created this world: constantly renewing itself, giving and giving again.

Maybe our Lenten reflection should include repentance for simply failing to see the miraculous in the earth that God has given us.

— Nancy Hopkins-Greene