This morning we might spend a few moments reflecting on St. Paul’s Letter to the Romans. He writes here, “Ever since the creation of the world, God’s invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity have been able to be understood and perceived in what he has made.”

This is a very interesting thought that God is revealed through nature. Not everybody believes this. I would have to say that probably many of the Jews in Jesus’ day and St. Paul’s day didn’t really believe it. Surely not everyone perceives God through nature, but St. Paul says God is revealed through nature.

Now if this is true, then even those who are believers through the word of God can learn about God through nature. And this is the attitude that the Fathers of the Church always took. It is not an attitude that many people take today, but it is the attitude that the Fathers took. We can learn about God through nature.

Now today we learn about nature not only by our own observations, but also through science. That means science has something to teach us, not only about nature, but about the God who manifests himself through nature. How odd it is then that some Christians take the view that we can’t learn anything about God through science or through nature—the only way we can learn anything about God is through the word of God. The word of God itself says otherwise. So rather than thinking of God and nature as totally distinct, utterly divorced realities, which is the view of many, especially fundamentalists and many evangelicals, rather than thinking that way we should see that we live and abide within God. “In God we live and move and have our being.” It has been an insight and pleasure to me in my experience of contemplating nature, living in nature, enjoying nature and allowing that enjoyment, that contemplation, to be a vehicle, a way of enjoying God and contemplating God. This is very sad that many people turn away from this truth.