



## *POETRY PRAYERS*

Written by Sarah Are

*There are a number of ways to utilize poetry in your ministry. You might print and distribute these prayers to members in your community, or read them aloud to open and close study sessions. In worship, you could offer a poem as an opening reflection, a meditation during the sermon, a moment of reflection after the sermon, or as a written prayer printed in the bulletin. However you utilize these poems, please include credit as follows: Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

### **A MONEY STORY**

#### *Nickels*

My grandfather pressed a nickel into my hand—  
One of those small silver circles  
That countries are built on  
And people live and die for.  
I cupped my eight-year-old palm around it  
As if that gift could become a part of me.  
And once I had blessed it,  
And once I had tossed it,  
And once wishes had been made on heads and tails,  
It was time to let it go.

I laid that cool silver circle  
That countries are built on  
And people live and die for  
On the railroad tracks.  
And after the train passed,  
I marveled at how something so small  
Could endure so much  
And still be here at all.  
But I guess you could say the same for me.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Rev. Sarah Are**, *Founding Creative Partner of A Sanctified Art*

Sarah (*she/her*) is the Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adults at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church, Dallas, Texas. She graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a degree in Social Work, and holds a Master of Divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary. Sarah loves to combine her love of all things creative with her passion for God. She believes that the Church has a responsibility to open every door to God, so that those of us who are visual, kinesthetic, or relational learners all have equal opportunity to engage God to the fullest of our abilities. Sarah feels called to live her life welcoming people into the church by using her energy and passion for beautifully scripted words, raw and relevant liturgy, and hands-on worship experiences to engage our longing for God and the need for justice in this messy world.