

Morning Prayer – Thursday, September 3, 2020

St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay / www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca

From: *Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace* by John Philip Newell

Opening

Blessed are the forgiving for they are free (Matthew 5.7)

Prayer of Awareness

We wake to the forgiveness of a new day.

We wake to the freedom to begin again.

We wake to the mercy of the sun's redeeming light.

Always new, always gift, always blessing.

We wake to the forgiveness of this new day.

Be still and aware of God's presence within and all around

Scripture and Meditation

God is merciful and gracious slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love (Psalm 103.8)

Forgive not seven times but seventy times seven times (Matthew 18.22)

Return evil for good and your enemy will become your friend

(Quran – Revelations Well Expounded 41.34)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

May our enemy become our friend, O God,
that we may share in the earth's goodness.

May our enemy become our friend, O God,
that our children may meet and marry.

May our enemy become our friend, O God,
that we may remember our shared birth in you.

May we grow in grace

may we grow in gratitude

may we grow in wisdom

that our enemy may become our friend.

Pray for peace

Poem – “Silence” by Lucian Blaga, trans. by Mari Goes

Such a deep silence surrounds me, that I think I hear
moonbeams striking on the windows.

In my chest,

a strange voice is awakens

and a song plays inside me
a longing that is not mine.

They say that ancestors, dead before their time,
with young blood still in their veins,
with great passion in their blood,
with the sun still burning in their blood
come,
come to continue to live
within us
their unfinished lives.

Such a deep silence surrounds me, that I think I hear
moonbeams striking on the windows.

O, who knows, soul of mine, in which chest you will sing
you also, after centuries,
in soft ropes of silence,
on harps of obscurity - the drowned longing
and the pleasure of living torn? Who knows?
Who knows?

Closing Prayer

The blessings of sun, the blessings of moon
the blessings of east and west
to guide us on the way
to lighten our eyes
to strengthen our will and loving.
The blessings of earth, the blessings of air
the blessings of fire and of water
to fill us with heaven
to free us with mercy
to stir us with flames of compassion.