

Morning Prayer – Thursday, June 25, 2020 - St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay
<https://www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca>

The St. Helena Breviary, Order of St. Helena
Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama

Opening Words (*as candle is lit*)

O God, open our lips. And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God,
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Venite (Psalm 95:1-7)

Come, let us sing to the Holy One; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving, *
and raise a loud shout with psalms.

For you, O God, are a great God; *
you are great above all gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
and kneel before God, our Maker,

For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand, *
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

(Be still and aware)

Scripture – Numbers 17:1-11 (Contemporary English Version – CEV)

The LORD told Moses: Call together the twelve tribes of Israel and tell the leader of each tribe to write his name on the walking stick he carries as a symbol of his authority. Make sure Aaron's name is written on the one from the Levi tribe, then collect all the sticks.

Place these sticks in the tent right in front of the sacred chest where I appear to you. I will then choose a man to be my priest, and his stick will sprout. After that happens, I won't have to listen to any more complaints about you.

Moses told the people what the LORD had commanded, and they gave him the walking sticks from the twelve tribal leaders, including Aaron's from the Levi tribe. Moses took them and placed them in the LORD's sacred tent. The next day when Moses went into the tent, flowers and almonds were

already growing on Aaron's stick. Moses brought the twelve sticks out of the tent and showed them to the people. Each of the leaders found his own and took it.

But the LORD told Moses, "Put Aaron's stick back! Let it stay near the sacred chest as a warning to anyone who might think about rebelling. If these people don't stop their grumbling about me, I will wipe them out." Moses did what he was told.

(Be still and aware)

Poem – "Rolling Saint" by Aimee Nezhukumatahil

*Lotan Baba, a holy man from India, rolled on his side for
four thousand kilometers across the country in his quest for
world peace and eternal salvation.*

—Reuters

He started small: fasting here and there,
days, then weeks. Once, he stood under
a banyan tree for a full seven years, sitting
for nothing—not even to sleep. It came
to him in a dream: *You must roll
on this earth, spin your heart in rain,
desert, dust.* At sunrise he'd stretch, swab
any cuts from the day before, and lay prone
on the road while his twelve men swept
the ground in front of him with sisal brooms.
Even monkeys stopped and stared at this man
rolling through puddles, past storefronts
where children would throw him pieces
of butter candy he'd try and catch
in his mouth at each rotation. His men
swept and sang, swept and sang
of jasmine-throated angels
and pineapple slices in kulfi cream.
He rolled and rolled. Sometimes
in his dizzying spins, he thought
he heard God. A whisper, but still.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, THE WORLD, AND ONESELF

Day 25 - Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama

Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise'. (Luke 23.42-43)

Dying Jesus,
at the end of yourself

you turned
and spoke words of
togetherness
in the places of the torn.
May we always find
words to hold,
especially in times
when the world
harms.
Because sometimes
words can
heal.
Amen.

Prayer for Courage

**from Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama*

Courage comes from the heart
and we are always welcomed by God,
the Croí* of all being.
We bear witness to our faith,
knowing that we are called to live lives of courage,
love and reconciliation
in the ordinary and extraordinary
moments of each day.
We bear witness, too, to our failures
and our complicity in the fractures of our world.
May we be courageous today.
May we learn today.
May we love today. Amen.

**The Irish word Croí (pronounced 'Kree') means 'heart'.*

Sources:

St. Helena Breviary from the Order of St. Helena. Church Publishing, 2006.

Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama, Canterbury Press, 2017.

Poem – Aimee Nezhukumatathil, "The Rolling Saint" from *Miracle Fruit* (Tupelo Press, 2003).