

Morning Prayer – Tuesday, July 7, 2020 - St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay

<https://www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca>

From *Daily Prayer for All Seasons, Episcopal Church USA*

### Opening

I begin this day with joy: God is good.

### Scripture

God saw everything that God had made, and, indeed, it was very good. Genesis 1:31

### Meditation

How will I receive God's goodness today?

### Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;  
courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.  
Living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time;  
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;  
trusting, O God, that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will;  
that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with you for ever in the next. Amen.

### Praise

Peace before us, peace behind us, Peace under our feet.  
Peace within us, peace over us, Let all around us be peace.

### Scripture – Ruth 1:18-2:12 (Contemporary English Version – CEV)

They reached Bethlehem, and the whole town was excited to see them. The women who lived there asked, "Can this really be Naomi?"

Then she told them, "Don't call me Naomi any longer! Call me Mara, because God has made my life bitter. I had everything when I left, but the LORD has brought me back with nothing. How can you still call me Naomi, when God has turned against me and made my life so hard?"

The barley harvest was just beginning when Naomi and Ruth, her Moabite daughter-in-law, arrived in Bethlehem.

One day, Ruth said to Naomi, "Let me see if I can find someone who will let me pick up the grain left in the fields by the harvest workers."

Naomi answered, "Go ahead, my daughter." So right away, Ruth went out to pick up grain in a field owned by Boaz. He was a relative of Naomi's husband Elimelech, as well as a rich and important man.

When Boaz left Bethlehem and went out to his field, he said to the harvest workers,  
“The LORD bless you!”

They replied, “And may the LORD bless you!”

Then Boaz asked the man in charge of the harvest workers, “Who is that young woman?”

The man answered, “She is the one who came back from Moab with Naomi. She asked if she could pick up grain left by the harvest workers, and she has been working all morning without a moment’s rest.”

Boaz went over to Ruth and said, “I think it would be best for you not to pick up grain in anyone else’s field. Stay here with the women and follow along behind them, as they gather up what the men have cut. I have warned the men not to bother you, and whenever you are thirsty, you can drink from the water jars they have filled.”

Ruth bowed down to the ground and said, “You know I come from another country. Why are you so good to me?”

Boaz answered, “I’ve heard how you’ve helped your mother-in-law ever since your husband died. You even left your own father and mother to come and live in a foreign land among people you don’t know. I pray that the LORD God of Israel will reward you for what you have done. And now that you have come to him for protection, I pray that he will bless you.”

*(Be still and aware)*

Poem - The Farmer - BY W.D. EHRHART

Each day I go into the fields  
to see what is growing  
and what remains to be done.  
It is always the same thing: nothing  
is growing, everything needs to be done.  
Plow, harrow, disc, water, pray  
till my bones ache and hands rub  
blood-raw with honest labor—  
all that grows is the slow  
intransigent intensity of need.  
I have sown my seed on soil  
guaranteed by poverty to fail.  
But I don’t complain—except  
to passersby who ask me why  
I work such barren earth.  
They would not understand me  
if I stooped to lift a rock

and hold it like a child, or laughed,  
or told them it is their poverty  
I labor to relieve. For them,  
I complain. A farmer of dreams  
knows how to pretend. A farmer of dreams  
knows what it means to be patient.  
Each day I go into the fields.

### Prayers

As we begin our day,  
Give us your peace.

As we pause this morning,  
Give us your peace.

As we do the work you have given us to do,  
Give us your peace.

For all places of need in this world,  
Give us your peace.

In trusting you, O God, to care for your children,  
Give us your peace.

As we seek wholeness,  
Give us your peace.

As we reflect on your presence,  
Let us be peace for others.

### *PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, THE WORLD, AND ONESELF*

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

### Prayer

Holy Creator, help me to embrace this day with open arms and to share your good gifts with gladness and generosity. Amen.

I begin this day with joy: God is good.

### Sources:

Prayers are from: *Daily Prayer for All Seasons* © 2014 by the Office of the General Convention of The Episcopal Church, Church Publishing Inc.

Poem – W. D. Ehrhart, "The Farmer" from *Beautiful Wreckage* (Adastral Press, 1999).