Morning Prayer – Friday, June 26, 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 20:1-13 (Contemporary English Version – CEV)

The people of Israel arrived at the Zin Desert during the first month and set up camp near the town of Kadesh. It was there that Miriam died and was buried.

The Israelites had no water, so they went to Moses and Aaron and complained, "Moses, we'd be better off if we had died along with the others in front of the LORD's sacred tent. You brought us into this desert, and now we and our livestock are going to die! Egypt was better than this horrible place. At least there we had grain and figs and grapevines and pomegranates. But now we don't even have any water."

Moses and Aaron went to the entrance to the sacred tent, where they bowed down. The LORD appeared to them in all of his glory and said, "Moses, get your walking stick. Then you

and Aaron call the people together and command that rock to give you water. That's how you will provide water for the people of Israel and their livestock."

Moses obeyed and took his stick from the sacred tent. After he and Aaron had gathered the people around the rock, he said, "Look, you rebellious people, and you will see water flow from this rock!" He raised his stick in the air and struck the rock two times. At once, water gushed from the rock, and the people and their livestock had water to drink.

But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you refused to believe in my power, these people did not respect me. And so, you will not be the ones to lead them into the land I have promised."

The Israelites had complained against the LORD, and he had shown them his holy power by giving them water to drink. So they named the place Meribah, which means "Complaining."

(Be still and aware)

Poem – "Jim Limber in Heaven Writes His Name in Water" by Shane McCrae

You walk through Heaven anywhere to anywhere on that soft green grass or nowhere it Don't matter anywhere you walk a bright And cool and it's about a foot-wide stream of The cleanest water anywhere with each Step you take parts the grass beside you On your left side if you're left-handed And on your right side otherwise just reach

Down if you're thirsty or you're dirty or
You're hot they got the sun in Heaven still
And folks get hot sometimes me sometimes I
Walk just to see the stream appear
Sometimes I lead it through my name on Earth I couldn't spell
My name now my great thirst has been revealed to me

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, THE WORLD, AND ONESELF

Day 26 - Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama

'Peace I leave with you; my own peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid'. (John 14:27)

Jesus, you shared peace around a table of anxiety, peace with the bread, peace with the wine, peace in the face of the uncertain, peace in the place of pain. May we share tables of peace in places of pain sharing food and friendship and words of life.
Because you came to a fearful world and found your place around those tables.
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 Croî* 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.

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 – Copyright © 2019 Shane McCrae. Kenyon Review, March/April 2019.

^{*}The Irish word Croi (pronounced 'Kree') means 'heart'.