

Compline – Monday, June 15, 2020

From Daily Prayer with the Corrymeela Community by Pádraig Ó Tuama

St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay / <https://www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca>

WE REFLECT ON THE DAY

For the love shared
we are grateful
For provision and nature
we are grateful
For kindness given
we are grateful.

For the sorrow we've caused,
we pray for forgiveness
For injustices ignored,
we pray for forgiveness.

(Be still and aware)

Psalm 4 – St. Helena Psalter

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; *
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; *
how long will you worship dumb idols
and run after false gods?"

Know that God does wonders for the faithful; *
when I call, God will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; *
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices *
and put your trust in the Most High.

Many are saying,
"Oh, that we might see better times!" *
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O God.

You have put gladness in my heart, *
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; *
for only you, God, make me dwell in safety.

Poem "Joseph Sleeps" by Linda Rodriguez
his eyelids like a moth's fringed wings.
Arms flail against the Ninja Turtle sheet
and suddenly-long legs
race time.

Awake, he's a water-leak detector, a recycling ranger
who bans Styrofoam and asks for beeswax
crayons, a renewable resource.
He wants to adopt the Missouri river,
write the president
to make factories stop polluting.

They're old friends, he and George Bush.
He writes and scolds
the president, every month or so,
about the bombing the children of Iraq
(he made his own sign to carry in protest),
about the plight of the California condor and northern gray wolf,
about more shelters and aid for the homeless.
The lion-shaped bulletin board in his room
is covered with pictures and letters from George,
who must be nice,
even if he is a slow learner.

Joseph is a mystery fan, owns 54 Nancy Drews.
Nancy's his friend, along with Jo, Meg, and Amy
and poor Beth, of course, whom he still mourns.
He also reads of knights and wizards, superheroes,
and how to win at Nintendo.

The cats and houseplants are his to feed and water
and the sunflower blooming in the driveway's border
of weeds. He drew our backyard to scale,
using map symbols, sent off to have it declared
an official wildlife refuge, left a good-night
note on my pillow, written in Egyptian hieroglyphs.

In my life, I have done one good thing.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

For the encounters with God today, in stranger and friend,
We bid you welcome.
For the encounters missed today,
We know that you always see us
even when we don't see you.
For tomorrow,
May we see you
in ways expected and unexpected.

We welcome the dark of the night.
We make space for it, and we mark our place in it.

We remember that you, Jesus of Nazareth,
lived through nights of consolation and desolation.

And you walked into the nights of those people you met
inviting them to justice and truth, love and life.

We welcome the night,
and we welcome you into all our nights.

We pray for those who work by night,
whose day is marked by moon, cloud and stars.

And we pray for those whose nights are desolate,
that they may have the consolation of prayer,
peaceful solitude and community.

For a peaceful night,
we pray.
For a hopeful day,
we pray
For a deeper generosity,
we pray.

Amen.

Sources:

Prayers are from: 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: Linda Rodriguez, "Joseph Sleeps," from *Heart's Migration*. Copyright © 2009 by Linda Rodriguez. Tia Chucha Press.