

Compline – Tuesday, December 15, 2020

Celtic Daily Prayer – The Northumbria Community

**modifications made for inclusive language*

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

Opening

God with me protecting,
the Lord with me directing,
the Spirit with me strengthening
for ever and evermore.

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

Scripture – Galatians 5:22-23 (The Message)

But what happens when we live God's way? He brings gifts into our lives, much the same way that fruit appears in an orchard—things like affection for others, exuberance about life, serenity. We develop a willingness to stick with things, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, able to marshal and direct our energies wisely.

Poem – “Joy” by Stuart Kestenbaum

The asters shake from stem to flower
waiting for the monarchs to alight.

Every butterfly knows that the end
is different from the beginning

and that it is always a part
of a longer story, in which we are always

transformed. When it's time to fly,
you know how, just the way you knew

how to breathe, just the way the air
knew to find its way into your lungs,

the way the geese know when to depart,
the way their wings know how to

speak to the wind, a partnership of feather
and glide, lifting into the blue dream.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

O God, at this time, we lift up to you our concerns, hopes and thanksgivings for ourselves and others, naming them out loud or holding them in our hearts....

Closing Prayers

O God of life, this night,
O darken not to me Thy light.
O God of life, this night,
close not thy gladness to my sight.
O God of life, this night,
Thy door to me, O shut not tight,
O God of life, this night.
O darken not to me Thy light.

Be it in Thine own beloved arms,
O God of grace,
that I in peace shall sleep and wake.

Sources:

Prayers are from: Celtic Daily Prayer: Book Two, Farther Up and Farther In Northumbria Community, London: William Collins Books, 2015.

Poem: "Joy," by Stuart Kestenbaum, from *How to Start Over*, (Deerbrook Editions, 2019).