Compline – Monday, May 18 2020
Celtic Daily Prayer – The Northumbria Community
*modifications made for inclusive language
St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay / https://www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca

INVOCATION
The Sacred Three
to save
to shield
to surround
this hearth
this home
this night
every night.

O God of life, this night,
close not Thy gladness to my sight.

Keep me and all who are dear to me
In the arms of Your embrace.
Shelter us under Your wings.

Be our hope in distress.
Be our calm in anxiety.
Be our strength in weakness.
Be our comfort in pain.
Be our song in the night.

SCRIPTURE   MATTHEW 13:1-9

That same day Jesus left the house and went out beside Lake Galilee, where he sat down to teach. Such large crowds gathered around him that he had to sit in a boat, while the people stood on the shore. Then he taught them many things by using stories. He said:

A farmer went out to scatter seed in a field. While the farmer was scattering the seed, some of it fell along the road and was eaten by birds. Other seeds fell on thin, rocky ground and quickly started growing because the soil wasn't very deep. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched and dried up, because they did not have enough roots. Some other seeds fell where thornbushes grew up and choked the plants. But a few seeds did fall on good ground where the plants produced a hundred or sixty or thirty times as much as was scattered. If you have ears, pay attention!

"If God is Art, then what do we make
of Jasper Johns?" One never knows
what sort of question a patient will pose,

or how exactly one should answer.
Outside the window, snow on snow
began to answer the ground below

with nothing more than foolish questions.
We were no different. I asked again:
"Professor, have we eased the pain?"

Eventually, he'd answer me with:
"Tell me, young man, whom do you love?"
"E," I'd say, "None of the Above,"

and laugh for lack of something more
to add. For days he had played that game,
and day after day I avoided your name

by instinct. I never told him how
we often wear each other's clothes—
we aren't what many presuppose.

Call it an act of omission, my love.
Tonight, while walking to the car,
I said your name to the evening star,

clearly pronouncing the syllables
to see your name dissipate
in the air, evaporate.

Only the night air carries your words
up to the dead (the ancients wrote):
I watched them rise, become remote.

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
God, your unfailing love sustains the life of the world: watch over those who work and those who rest, those who sorrow and those who rejoice, those who long for your peace and those who long to be enlivened by your Spirit. Bless us this night and enfold us in your mystery that we might deepen our trust in your grace and peace. **Amen.**

Calm me, O Christ, as You stilled the storm.
Still me O Christ, keep me from harm.
Let all the tumult within me cease.
Enfold me, Lord, in Your peace.
O God, bless the work that is done,
and the work that is to be.

O God, bless the servant that I am,
and the servant that I will be.

Sleep, O sleep in the calm of all calm.
Sleep, O sleep in the guidance of all guidance.
Sleep O sleep in the love of all loves.
Sleep, O beloved, in the God of life. Amen.

Sources:

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