

Morning Prayer – Friday, September 11, 2020

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

From: *Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace* by John Philip Newell

Opening

Blessed are the clear in heart, for they see the Living Presence (Matthew 5.8)

Prayer of Awareness

At the beginning of the day
we seek your countenance among us, O God,
in the countless forms of creation all around us
in the sun's rising glory
In the face of friend and stranger.
Your presence within every presence
your Light within all light
your Heart at the heart of the moment.
May the fresh light of morning wash our sight
that we may see your Life
in every life this day.

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

Scripture and Meditation

'Come' my heart says, 'seek God's face.' (Psalm 27.8)

Let your light shine before others (Matthew 5.16)

You have but to remember and you will see the light.

(Quran – The Heights 7.201)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

It is when we are still, that we know.
It is when we listen, that we hear.
It is when we remember, that we see your light, O God.
From your Stillness, we come.
With your Sound, all life quivers with being.
From You the light of this moment shines.
Grant us to remember you at the heart of each moment.
Grant us to remember.

Pray for peace

Poem – “My Understanding One Day of Foxgloves” by John Lee Clark

I was gardening hand and foot,
my mind hand-in-glove

with foxgloves,
when out of the blue
a rush of wind mistook me
for something much lighter.

Bowled over foot over hand
and about to fly,
I felt for my foxgloves
and they took hold of my fingers
by the thimble, fingertip
in fingerhut-small wonder
their kind is called Digitalis
and their kindness dumb love.

They paid no mind to nature
calling them
to unhand yours truly,
here mute but gloved.

I smiled at the sky
between my feet, knowing
that my foxgloves are true,
truer to my fingers
than any mistake of nature.

My understanding has some weight,
so my feet will soon glissade
down to earth, to rest again
close to my hands
cuddling small wonders.

Closing Prayer

Peace where there is war
healing where there is hurt
memory where we have forgotten the other.
vision where there is violence
light where there is madness
sight where we have blinded each other.
Comfort where there is sorrow
tears where there is hardness
laughter where we have missed life's joy
laughter when we remember the joy

Sources: *Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace* by John Philip Newell (Eerdmans, 2011).
"My Understanding One Day of Foxgloves" by John Lee Clark: *Poetry* (March 2004)