

Morning Prayer – Saturday September 19, 2020

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

From: *Celtic Prayers from Iona* – J. Philip Newell

Opening Words

How weighty to me are your thoughts O God / how vast is the sum of them. If I should count them they are more than the sand / When I awake / I am still with you (Psalm 139:17-18)

Be still and aware of the presence of the Divine within and all around

Opening Prayer and Thanksgiving

O God who brought me
from the rest of last night
to the new light of this day
Bring me in the new light
of this day
to the guiding light of the eternal.
Lead me O God
on the journey of justice
Guide me O God on the
on the pathways of peace
Renew me O God
By the wellsprings of grace
Today, tonight and forever

FREE PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

The 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
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
Now and for ever
Amen.

Scripture – Psalm 27 – St. Helena Psalter

God is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? *

God is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.

Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in God.

One thing have I asked of you, O God;
one thing I seek: *
that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life,

To behold your fair beauty, O God, *
and to seek you in your temple.

For in the day of trouble you shall keep me safe in your shelter; *
you shall hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

Even now you lift up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in your dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to you.

Hearken to my voice, O Most High, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, O God, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper;
cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
you will sustain me.

Show me your way, O God, *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me,
and also those who speak malice.

What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of my God *
in the land of the living!

O tarry and await God's pleasure;
be strong, and let your heart take comfort; *
wait patiently for God.

SILENCE

Poem – “from Letter in April: VII”

BY INGER CHRISTENSEN

TRANSLATED BY SUSANNA NIED

On the street
with our money
clutched
in our hands,
buying bread
and scattering breadcrumbs
for the bluish
doves.
Paying
to see
the fire eater,
the cigarette swallower
and the dead vagabond
who breathes.
Greeting
the palm tree
that sighs
at night.
Saying a few words
to the staring
stone figure
above the gate.
Laughing
and rushing
in
as if chased.
In the cool kitchen
we prepare
and arrange our food.
We make it as elegant

as we can.
Bouquet on the table
and all.
And we speak
in our own

clear
language.
Who knows
if things don't
know in themselves
that we're called
something else.

Intercessions

May those without shelter
Be under your guarding this day, O Christ
May the wandering find places of welcome.
O Son of tears, of the wounds, of the piercings,
May your cross this day be shielding for them.

Personal Intercessions

Closing Prayer

On my heart and on my house
The blessing of God.
In my coming and in my going
The peace of God.
In my life and in my seeking
The love of God.
At my end and new beginning
The arms of God to welcome me
and bring me home.

Sources:

Prayers are from: Celtic Prayers from Iona – J. Philip Newell, New York: Paulist Press, 1997
Psalm: St. Helena Breviary, Order of St. Helena, Church Publishing, 2006.
Poem: "VII" from *Letter in April* (1979) by Inger Christensen. Translation by Susanna Nied:
Poetry (May 2009)