

Morning Prayer – Saturday, December 12, 2020
St. George's Anglican Church, Cadboro Bay. www.stgeorgecadborobay.ca

Opening Words

Lord, you are close to the broken-hearted.
You see all things and know our every fear and sorrow

As I invite you, O Lord, into my spoken prayer
I invite you into my heart.

Sometimes I feel weary
and I long for the space to be at Peace.
But Peace must be made before it can be enjoyed.
So let me be a peace-maker, a bridge-builder,
a messenger of Your Way,
which is the way to lasting peace.

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

Hebrews 12:14-17 (NRSV)

Work at getting along with each other and with God. Otherwise you'll never get so much as a glimpse of God. Make sure no one gets left out of God's generosity. Keep a sharp eye out for weeds of bitter discontent. A thistle or two gone to seed can ruin a whole garden in no time. Watch out for the Esau syndrome: trading away God's lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite. You well know how Esau later regretted that impulsive act and wanted God's blessing—but by then it was too late, tears or no tears.

A moment of silence to reflect on the reading

Canticle

O God, you surround our griefs, fears and failures
with your healing mercy.
In this Advent-time
help us to know that You are with us in the waiting and preparing,
in the darkness and in the light
and help us to trust that You work all things together for good.

Poem – "I dwell in possibility - 466" by Emily Dickinson

I dwell in Possibility –
A fairer House than Prose –
More numerous of Windows –
Superior – for Doors –

Of Chambers as the Cedars –

Impregnable of eye –
And for an everlasting Roof
The Gambrels of the Sky –

Of Visitors – the fairest –
For Occupation – This –
The spreading wide my narrow Hands
To gather Paradise –

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS, THE WORLD, AND ONESELF

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send Your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious about many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To You we say, 'Come Lord Jesus!'

Joel Mason

Sources

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

Poem: THE POEMS OF EMILY DICKINSON: READING EDITION, edited by Ralph W. Franklin, Cambridge, Mass.: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, Copyright © 1998, 1999 by the President and Fellows of Harvard College. Copyright © 1951, 1955, by the President and Fellows of Harvard College. Copyright © 1979, 1983 by the President and Fellows of Harvard College. Copyright © 1914, 1918, 1924, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1935, 1937, 1942 by Martha Dickinson Bianchi. Copyright © 1952, 1957, 1958, 1963, 1965 by Mary L. Hampson.

Source: *The Poems of Emily Dickinson Edited by R. W. Franklin* (Harvard University Press, 1999)