



Prayers Anchored in the Gospel of John

John 3:19-21

Thursday, February 27, 2014

* Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

* The Collect

Collecting your thoughts so you can focus on God.

Book of Alternative Services, p.353

www.anglican.ca/resources/liturgicaltextsonline/

John 3:19-21 (NIV)

*¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

* This is a time when you will want to contemplate the beauty of God, or to rest in His protection and love for you. Some of this may not come out in words as much as in a posture of adoration and rest.



* **Meditation**

“...the real problem of the Christian life comes where people do not usually look for it. It comes the very moment you wake up each morning. All your wishes and hopes for the day rush at you like wild animals. And the first job each morning consists in shoving them all back [note: not down]; in listening to that other voice, taking that other point of view, letting that other larger, stronger, quieter life [of Christ] come flowing in. And so on, all day....

We can do it only for moments at first. But from those moments the new sort of life will be spreading through our systems because now we are letting Him work at the right part of us.”

*C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity, 168-69 as quoted in
The Healing Presence by Leanne Payne (29-30).*

 **Meditation**

“Darkness cannot abide absolute goodness, the Light. This horror of the Light consists in the fact that we, as sinners, must die to our old, false, usurping selves, submitting, like Eustace [from C.S. Lewis’ *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*], to Aslan’s claws. We are fearful because we know we must have our scaly dragon hides ripped off before we can be thrown in the healing waters, be cleansed, and come up into the Presence. Only then we might cease to do our works, that Another might take over and live through us.

...The darkness in the world did not overcome the Light who came incarnate into the world. And it is this Light that enters into all who believe in Him. Of the utter purity of this Light, none who know it will question. We must become ‘...as glass/To let the white light without flame, the Father pass/Unstained.’

 **Meditation**

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness.
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

*Song

Music and lyrics by Chris Tomlin.



- * Take time to remember your salvation and be thankful.
- * This is an example of my response: “Father, we thank you that you come into our lives and our world. I praise you that the darkness does not overcome the light of your light. In you is hope and beauty and all goodness.”

* Prayer



Pray for those who love the darkness - that their hearts may be softened, that they may be humble and contrite, that they may receive the cleansing and forgiveness that God in Christ offers.

*Prayer

* May the God of infinite goodness scatter the darkness of sin and brighten your hearts with holiness; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

* **Blessing**