



3-29-14 Search Committee of Trinity Episcopal Church

Opening Prayer

O God of truth, help us in our desire to take risks. Set us free from those things which bind us in order that we may be free for the new life Christ offers. Give us strength and courage to face difficult truths in order to free our church to follow your Son more fully. Let your peacefulness surround us even as we remember that Jesus did not avoid honest anger and confrontation. In our Savior's name, Amen

Reflection

"...simply because a task or undertaking is good to do does not mean that we are called to do it or that we should continue doing it. To be doing what is good can be the greatest obstacle to doing something even better. We may understand only with hindsight why we were called to do something different...Our calls are always evolving. If we are to respond, we need to listen, not only today but as today evolves into tomorrow. *In times of transition, we need to listen with extra care.* If we go on listening, we feel God pulling us, drawing us into another current, a larger, deeper, stronger one than our usual little force."

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear....

-Isa. 50:4-5

*Excerpts from Suzanne G. Farnham, et al. **Listening Hearts***

Silence

A Song of Penitence — Kyrie Pantokrator *(read in unison)*

To consider this week

"...when I get into the garden in the spring, and I'm getting ready for it here— what am I doing during Lent, in particular? I'm digging out weeds that have died. I'm cleaning out the garden. It's a messy business and it's not terribly pleasant. But in the very task of doing it, my senses are being brought alive. I'm attuning my body. I'm cleansing my soul. I'm making myself ready to receive the gift."

Vigen Guroian, an Armenian Orthodox theologian and professor at University of Virginia, who experiences Easter as a call to our senses.

Part II—when our work is done

From Psalm 113

Give praise, you servants of the LORD; * praise the Name of the LORD. Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, * from this time forth for evermore. From the rising of the sun to its going down * let the Name of the LORD be praised. The LORD is high above all nations, * and his glory above the heavens.

A Reading

O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength. *Isaiah 26:3; 30:15*

Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*