**Prayers for Peace**

By The Rev Anthea Ballam

**Silence**

Give me an empty bowl  
That waits to be filled  
Holding promise  
In this moment  
Who knows where to find it?  
Hidden behind a beating heart?  
Wherever one goes  
Lone, alone  
Sitting, moving, standing  
It is elusive  
Who needs it?  
Yet without it  
There is envy  
It is given to those that cannot hear  
People of the desert  
The mountain priest  
Is there anyone, anywhere  
That owns such peace?  
A dweller alone  
In perfect stillness and seclusion  
Let us rest in it  
Let us cherish it  
For it is ours  
Yours and mine  
In meditation  
And for the asking  
Bless this silence

**May This Morning**

May this morning  
Bring you light  
May this day  
Unfold like a flower  
When you step into the air  
Let the breeze stroke your cheek  
The same messenger  
That rides on the roar of the sea  
And rages through gentle leaves  
In great trees  
Over your head  
The feathery clouds  
In the blue sky  
Are wild chariots  
Stormy tides  
Carrying birds on the wing  
Angels and distant dreams  
With all this  
You are blessed  
Before you open the door  
Before you leave your bed  
And long before you awaken