

Father, I stay alert and persevere in prayer,

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interceding on behalf of all the saints.

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I pray for fellow brothers and sisters in Christ

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who are persecuted because of the Gospel.

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I ask You to give them powerful words to speak,

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that they may open their mouths boldly and

---

courageously as they make known the mystery

---

of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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(Ephesians 6:18-20)

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1 The Lord is my shepherd;

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I shall not want.

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2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

---

He leads me beside the still waters.

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3 He restores my soul;

---

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

---

For His name's sake.

---

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of

---

the shadow of death,

---

I will fear no evil;

---

For You are with me;

---

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

---

5 You prepare a table before me in the

---

presence of my enemies;

---

You anoint my head with oil;

---

My cup runs over.

---

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

---

All the days of my life;

---



Alone I stare into the frost's white face.

---

It's going nowhere, and I—from nowhere.

---

Everything ironed flat, pleated without a wrinkle:

---

Miraculous, the breathing plain.

---

Meanwhile the sun squints at this starched

---

poverty—

---

The squint itself consoled, at ease...

---

The ten-fold forest almost the same...

---

And snow crunches in the eyes, innocent,

---

like clean bread.

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Let us praise the twilight of freedom, brothers,

---

the great year of twilight!

---

A thick forest of nets has been let down

---

into the seething waters of night.

---

O sun, judge, people, desolate

---

are the years into which you are rising!

---

Let us praise the momentous burden

---

that the people's leader assumes, in tears.

---

Let us praise the twilight burden of power,

---

its weight too great to be borne.

---

Time, whoever has a heart

---

will hear your ship going down.

---

We have roped swallows together

---

into legions.

---

Now we can't see the sun.

---

Everywhere nature twitters as it moves.

---

In the deepening twilight the earth swims into

---

the nets

---

and the sun can't be seen.

---

But what can we lose if we try one

---

groaning, wide, ungainly sweep of the rudder?

---

The earth swims. Courage,

---

brothers, as the cleft sea falls back from our

---

plow.

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Even as we freeze in Lethe we'll remember

---

the ten heavens the earth cost us.

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