# Already david m bailey

From the top of the ladder to the end of the rope, in the fullness of joy, in the absence of hope, when you're lost in the crowd, when you feel all alone, when you're close to the fire, when you're far from your home; wherever you are, whatever your care, God is already there.

When the river is dry, when the sun doesn't shine, when the shadows are long, when you're all outta time, when the people you love you cannot comprehend, when you want to be real but can only pretend; wherever you are, whatever your care, God is already there.

When the road makes a turn, when the detour is long, when the war has begun, when the border is drawn, when you're dying to sing but you can't hear the song, , when you're left becomes right and your right becomes wrong, when you feel you've arrived but not sure you belong, when you're true, when you're blue, when you're weak, when you're strong; wherever you are, whatever your care, God is already there.

> Prayer Leader: **Subhana Cathy Graf** 9/27/2021

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# Already



Simon Berger from Pexels



Our prayer is characterized by silence ~

#### Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word. God is present in all our lives. God cares for us, and our life experiences are a source of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence we share from our hearts.

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## To Ponder: Lao Tzu

'Tao Te Ching' (16), translation by S. Mitchell

Empty your mind of all thoughts.

Let your heart be at peace.

Watch the turmoil of beings, but contemplate their return.

Each separate being in the universe returns to the common source.

Returning to the source is serenity.

If you don't realize the source, you stumble in confusion and sorrow.

When you realize where you come from, you naturally become tolerant, disinterested, amused, kindhearted as a grandmother, dignified as a king.

Immersed in the wonder of the Tao, you can deal with whatever life brings you, and when death comes, you are ready.

### Reading: Stephen Charleston

The Four Vision Quests of Jesus

So live your life that the fear of death can never enter your heart.

Trouble no one about their religion; respect others in their view and demand that they respect yours.

Love your life, perfect your life, beautify all things in your life.

Seek to make your life long and its purpose in the service of your people.

Sharing...

a word,

a phrase

a reflection

Reminders:

Come on time Honor the silence Share briefly from personal experience Listen to each other Discussion (cross talk) is for after the hour of prayer