

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore". Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14 - Morning Prayer II

This beautiful text from Morning Prayer gives us something to ponder during the summer months, as time becomes a bit more our own, as we have time to rest. For many people, summer means a break. For some that break includes a break from church! The words from Corinthians remind us that God is part of every moment, realized or not. Perhaps the only constant in our ever-changing lives is the Divine Love, the Christ in whose arms we laugh and cry, and in whose heart we are always secure no matter what. But we are people who so often compartmentalize. Christ "*with us all evermore*" will not be boxed in. If allowed, God makes holy every moment, and gives strength for the difficult times, and gives depth to the joys of our days.

We all have much for which we hope, we have plans for ourselves and others, dreams of how life might be better, more meaningful, and sometimes these hopes include a deeper faith, or a clearer awareness of God's presence. The words from Corinthians remind us that it is not Christ who is changing, we are. Perhaps the only place where we can touch down, where we can find real peace, our only safe place is in the embrace of God.

We think of life's joys. On these lazy days of summer we reflect on the summers of years ago, when perhaps there was more vacation. For me, I remember distant memories of summer days spent at the shore, at the pool, or on the baseball field. But time has gone speeding by, and we rest only an instant in the present moment, reflecting back and looking forward.

We can plan, as best we try, what will be, but only God knows. But still in that uncertainty is God, "*with us all evermore*" for all our joys and all our sorrows. This summer will bring rest for some, it will bring great joy for others, it will bring sorrow for a few, and it will certainly bring change for many. At first glance it seems like such uncertainty, but there is God "*with us all evermore*" for all our joys and sorrows.

In God's keeping remain all our todays and tomorrows, and in our journeys we do well to remember that at no time ever are we alone. Even when we may feel distant, God is "*with us all evermore.*" During this summer, I hope you have the chance in your rest and recreation to remember who it is that journeys with you. I hope you will take the opportunity, as calendars are free and time permits, to remember to rest in that safe place with God. Remember God is "*with us all evermore*" beyond our brief tomorrows, and bring your thanks for all that is to be.

Peace and Blessing,
Father Ron

- See more at: <http://www.stjohnsomerville.org/content/us-all-evermore#overlay-context=>