

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Monday 12th February 2024

By Revd John Marshall

Ruth. Steven Shakespeare

I am un-relation
un-kin.
My name is foreign

I am told to go
back where I came from.
I rely on the kindness
of those who have power.
I am bargained over
like a bushel of wheat or a wash bowl.

But I do not want your pity:
I stay, I make my own bed.
I walk the miles worn by devotion,
work the fields sown by strangers.
My blood is not yours
but it runs from an undivided heart:
it crosses bloodlines and boundaries
to break on the shore of a strange saviour

I am fore-mother,
queer kin.
My name is friend.

- Come Holy Gift. Canterbury Press

I am always impressed by Ruth's love and faithfulness and her place in the salvation story.
She was a stranger who has a place in the lineage of King David and Jesus Christ.