

MORNING PRAYER 2

(based on Morning Prayer from the Iona Abbey Worship Book)

The world belongs to God,
The Earth and all its people.
How good it is, how wonderful,
To live together in unity.
Love and faith come together,
Justice and peace join hands.
If Christ's disciples keep silent
These stones would shout aloud.
Open our lips, O God,
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

A Morning song of praise, or music.

Confession

Holy God, Maker of all, have mercy on us.
Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor, have mercy on us.
Holy Spirit, Breath of life, have mercy on us.

In silence we confess our faults and admit our frailty.

Pause for personal confession or a brief prayer.

Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

May God forgive me, Christ renew me,
and the Spirit enable me to grow in love. Amen.

Prayer for God's help

Move among us, O God; give us life:
Let your people rejoice in you.
Make our hearts clean within us:
Renew us in mind and in spirit.
Give us again the joy of your help:
With your Spirit of freedom sustain us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed by your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Affirmation

With the whole church
We affirm
that we are made in God's image,
befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.

With people everywhere
We affirm
God's goodness at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.

With all creation
We celebrate
the miracle and wonder of life;
the unfolding purposes of God,
forever at work in ourselves and the world. Amen.

Psalm or

O God, my heart is not proud:
nor are my eyes haughty.
I do not busy myself in great matters:
or in things too wonderful for me.
But I have calmed and quieted my soul
like a weaned child upon its mother's breast:
like a child on its mother's breast is my soul within me.
O Israel, trust in God:
from this time forward and for ever.

Psalm 131, ABPA p. 364

Scripture reading for the day or

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35: 1-10

After the reading, there is a period of silence.

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us, thanks be to God.

A song or some music is appropriate here.

*Prayers of gratitude and concern
for the needs of the world and life of the church
concerns for the community
for friends and family.*

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Christ, you are within each of us.
It is not just the interior of these walls:
it is our own inner being you have renewed.
We are your temple not made with hands.
We are your body.
If every wall should crumble, and every church decay,
we are your habitation.
Nearer are you than breathing,
closer than hands and feet.
Ours are the eyes with which you, in the mystery,
look out with compassion on the world.
Yet we bless you for this place,
for your directing of us, your redeeming of us,
and your indwelling.
Further in all things the purpose of our community,
that hidden things may be revealed to us,
and new ways found to touch the hearts of all.
May we preserve with each other
sincere charity and peace,
and, if it be your holy will,
grant that this place of your abiding be continued still
to be a sanctuary and a light.
We ask it for your own name's sake. Amen.

Silence.

Closing responses

This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
We will not offer to God
offerings that cost us nothing.
We go in peace to love and to serve;
we will seek peace and pursue it.
In the name of the Trinity of Love,
God in community, holy and one. Amen.