

A SIMPLE EVENING LITURGY

THE LAST AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 14, 2021



St. Columba's Episcopal Church

Boothbay Harbor, Maine



CELTIC EVENING PRAYER

In this time of the Pandemic, we are changing and being changed.

What once was urgent in our daily lives is now put on pause.

Other more immediate ways of living and dying are transforming us.

As we contemplate and experience our collective living and dying,
we pray that we can be even more unified as One in God's Love all across the world.

There is great hope in all that is happening in this world, we embrace it all.

Now in these unprecedented times, our world is hushed . . .

In the quiet and the chaos,
we're witnessing the wellspring of new life, even in the midst of death.

All the world is now, perhaps for the first time ever,
singularly focused on the healing of one another
and the healing of "this fragile Earth, our island home."

Almost since time began,
this is also the spirit in which our evenings always have begun.
At this holy hour of twilight, we are hushed throughout all time,
breathing in more deeply, lighting our candles, pausing at the end of the day
together to pray into the love of God's welcoming embrace.

In this widened space at the end of the day,
our prayers encircle the world continuously.
We rest into the power of quietness and the healing touch of God.
As were all those who have gone before us, we too are comforted and calmed
at this hour of twilight by candlelight, music and prayer.

The Celtic tradition holds that we find God in Christ in our hearts,
in each other, and in all creation.

As always, we welcome all to join with us in these timeless prayers.

So come as you are, let down your burdens,
find your rest in God's expansive Love.
This love is sweeping over you and all of Creation,
sweeping 'round and 'round the world
throughout all time and in all places.

Let us pray, this prayer offered up by our friends in Virginia,

Almighty God: Our times are in your hand. We call upon you in this hour of our need, when we are lonely and must stand apart. Be our strength, O Loving God, our calm in the midst of raging seas, our refuge and our dwelling place. Sanctify to us this time drawn away from others, even as your Son, O God of All Creation, drew away to a lonely place for prayer. Deepen our need of you, dear God, that every breath may be a whisper of the Spirit's prompting, a renewed searching of the deep things of God. Stir up in us the great act of intercession, that we may spend our time apart in prayer for the world you created and sustain. Bless us in our turning toward you, and make us a blessing to those who stand in need of you, the whole fragile earth. All this we ask in the name of great Physician our healer, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<https://mailchi.mp/vts/a-prayer-and-worship-resource-pack-from-vts-2615050>

With God's help, our gifts become the blessings we seek for the world.

A SIMPLE EVENING LITURGY

Opening Responses

Iona Abbey Worship Book pg. 141

Leader: Peace on each one who comes in need,
All: Peace on each one who comes in joy.

Leader: Peace on each one who offers prayers,
All: Peace on each one who offers song.

Leader: Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son,
All: Peace of the Spirit the Triune One.

Opening Collect of the Day

Leader: God be with you.
All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray,

Leader: O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever . **Amen.**

Hymn #427 "When morning gilds the skies" (st. 1, 2, 5)

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
5 Sing, suns and stars of space, sing, ye that see his face,

1 may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning sha - dows fall,
2 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
5 sing, Je - sus Christ be praised! God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,

1 this rings my cur - few call, may Je - sus Christ be praised!
2 hath none that can com - pare with: Je - sus Christ be praised!
5 both now and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Words: German, ca. 1800; tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844–1930), alt.
Music: *Laudes Domini*, Joseph Barnby (1838–1896)

Prayer

Leader: O God, for your love for us, warm and brooding,
which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes
to the wonder and beauty of creation,

All: *We give You thanks.*

Leader: For your love for us, wild and freeing,
which has awakened us to the energy of creation:
to the sap that flows,
the blood that pulses,
the heart that sings,

All: *We give You thanks.*

Leader: For your love for us, compassionate and patient,
which has carried us through our pain,
wept beside us in our sin,
and waited with us in our confusion.

All: *We give You thanks.*

Leader: For your love for us, strong and challenging,
which has called us to risk for you,
asked for the best in us,
and shown us how to serve.

All: *We give You thanks.*

Leader: O God we come to celebrate
that your Holy Spirit is present deep within us,
and at the heart of all life.
For us when we forget your gift of love
made known to us in Jesus,
and draw us into your presence.

THE WORD OF GOD

Gospel for the Day Mark 9:2-9

The Message

In a Light-Radiant Cloud

Six days later, three of them did see it. Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain. His appearance changed from the inside out, right before their eyes. His clothes shimmered, glistening white, whiter than any bleach could make them. Elijah, along with Moses, came into view, in deep conversation with Jesus.

Peter interrupted, “Rabbi, this is a great moment! Let’s build three memorials—one for you, one for Moses, one for Elijah.” He blurted this out without thinking, stunned as they all were by what they were seeing.

Just then a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and from deep in the cloud, a voice: “This is my Son, marked by my love. Listen to him.”

The next minute the disciples were looking around, rubbing their eyes, seeing nothing but Jesus, only Jesus.

Coming down the mountain, Jesus swore them to secrecy. “Don’t tell a soul what you saw. After the Son of Man rises from the dead, you’re free to talk.” They puzzled over that, wondering what on earth “rising from the dead” meant.

Here ends the reading.

Response

All are invited to reflect on the readings with a symbolic action to declare their engagement with their prayers of thanksgiving and concern; be it lighting a candle, meditating, placing stones in sand, ringing a bell, planting seeds, drawing or writing.

a period of silence follows

Hymn #423 "Immortal, invisible, God only wise!"

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry, thou rul - est in light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish, like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - tor - ious, thy great Name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but nought chan - geth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824–1908), alt. Music: *St. Denio*, Welsh hymn, from *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. John Roberts (1822–1877); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

Prayer

(Here is opportunity for prayers of concern, spoken or unspoken, each prayer being followed by silence.)

We bring to God
 someone whom we have met or remembered today
 and for whom we want to pray

(Silence)

We bring to God
 someone who is hurting tonight and needs our prayer

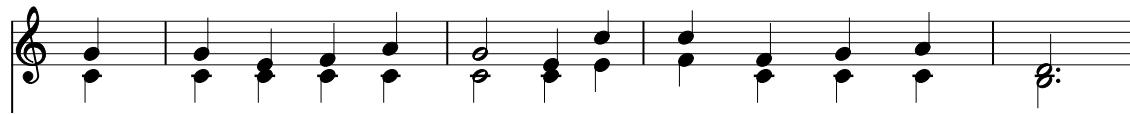
(Silence)

We bring to God
a troubled situation in our world tonight
(Silence)

We bring to God, silently,
someone whom we find hard to forgive or trust
(Silence)

We bring ourselves to God
that we might grow in generosity of spirit,
clarity of mind,
and warmth of affection.
(Silence)

Hymn “The Church has left the Building” (*tune #555 “Lead on, O King Eternal”*)



1 The church has left the build - ing Our doors wide o - pen swing
2 The church has left the build - ing Our call - ing makes us sing
3 The church has left the build - ing Out of our walls we spring



Make us a church with - out walls Re - spon - sive when God calls
We want to live out God's grace Com - pas - sion face to face
We put our faith to ac - tion Lord, let Your work be done



We use our hands, we use our feet We take it to the street
And when we see the ones in need We house and clothe and feed
We are not proud, our heads are bowed And sing of love out loud



The church has left the build - ing Good news to all we bring
The church has left the build - ing Good news to all we bring
The church has left the build - ing Good news to all we bring

Words: David Irvine (2014)

Music: *Lancashire*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813–1879)

Closing Responses

Leader: O Trinity of Love,
You have been with us at the world's beginning,

All: *Be with us till the world's end.*

Leader: You have been with us at our life's shaping,

All: *Be with us at our life's end.*

Leader: You have been with us at the sun's rising,

All: *Be with us till the day's end.*

Amen.

The Blessing

Our God, who created us, is with you;
Jesus Christ, who redeemed us, is with you;
the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us, is with you;
the Holy Three enfold you;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



*Please note that during this time of pandemic
St. Columba's building is closed until further notice.
Donations can be sent to St. Columba's Episcopal Church
32 Emery Lane, Boothbay Harbor ME 04538*

OUR MISSION

To be a Safe Harbor In the Name of Christ

For the Love of God ~

Through the Power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR VISION

To declare the Glory of God
by building a strong, faithful,
and committed community of Christ's people,
who worship in the Episcopal tradition
and are dedicated to doing Christ's work
through our daily lives, making a difference
in the Boothbay Region.

If you would like to contribute to our online and community ministries, your special gift can be sent to: St. Columba's Church
32 Emery Lane
Boothbay Harbor ME 04538

Or you can directly send us an online donation through the link on the Episcopal Diocese of Maine home page: <https://www.episcopalmaine.org/about-us/about-us-for-everyone/giving-online>

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The permanent phone number to listen to Faith in Maine podcasts is: **207-223-6402**



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