

Morning Prayer – Tuesday, October 20, 2020
Celtic Prayers from Iona – J. Philip Newell

Opening Words

If I ascend to heaven you are there O God / And if I make my bed in hell, still you are with me
(Psalm 139:8)

Be still and aware of the presence of the Divine within and all around

Opening Prayer and Thanksgiving

In the beginning O God
You shaped my soul and set its weave
You formed my body
 and gave it breath.
Renew me this day
 in the image of your love.
O Great God, grant me your light
O Great God, grant me your grace
O Great God, grant me
 your joy this day
And let me be made whole
 in the well of your health.

FREE PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be 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
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power
 and the glory are yours
Now and for ever
Amen.

Scripture – 1 Colossians 1:24-29 (Contemporary English Version - CEV)

I am glad that I can suffer for you. I am pleased also that in my own body I can continue the suffering of Christ for his body, the church. God's plan was to make me a servant of his church

and to send me to preach his complete message to you. For ages and ages this message was kept secret from everyone, but now it has been explained to God's people. God did this because he wanted you Gentiles to understand his wonderful and glorious mystery. And the mystery is that Christ lives in you, and he is your hope of sharing in God's glory.

We announce the message about Christ, and we use all our wisdom to warn and teach everyone, so that all of Christ's followers will grow and become mature. That's why I work so hard and use the mighty power he gives me.

Poem – “Bach and the Sentry” by Ivor Gurney (1890-1937)

Watching the dark my spirit rose in flood
On that most dearest Prelude of my delight.
The low-lying mist lifted its hood,
The October stars showed nobly in clear night.

When I return, and to real music-making,
And play that Prelude, how will it happen then?
Shall I feel as I felt, a sentry hardly waking,
With a dull sense of No Man's Land again?

FREE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

O Christ of the road
of the wounded
O Christ of the tears
of the broken
In me and with me
the needs of the world
Grant me my prayers
of loving and hoping
Grant me my prayers
of yearning and healing.

Closing Prayer

God before me, God behind me, God above me, God beneath me.
I on your path O God / You, O God, on my way.
In the twistings of the road / In the currents of the river
Be with me by day / Be with me by night / Be with me by day and by night.

Sources:

Prayers are from: Celtic Prayers from Iona – J. Philip Newell, New York: Paulist Press, 1997

Poem: “Bach and the Sentry” by Ivor Gurney, public domain.

Scripture: Contemporary English Version, American Bible Society, 1995.