**WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER: Prayers for Healing**

Adapted from “Celtic Prayers from Iona” by J. Philip Newell

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)

**SILENCE:** *Be still and aware of God’s presence within and all around.*

*Bell is rung.*

**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 pure in the well of your health.

**FREE PRAYERS OF THANKS:** *Offer your thanksgiving to God, aloud or in silence.*

**PSALM 101** (Paraphrase by Christine Robinson from Psalms for a New World)

I sing of the mercy and justice
**that you, O God, have planted in my heart.**
I strive to follow your way.
**And remember that you walk with me.**
I will pursue worthy goals.
**and stay away from evil-doers**
I will nurture my pure heart
**and live carefully on the earth.**I will watch my judgmental thoughts
   **-help me soften my stance towards others.**
I will keep good company
   **and strive to be honest with myself.**
I will do what I can for others and
**try to make my world a better place—**
For it is your world, and beautiful,
**and I would live on it well.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 8:28-34**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**SILENCE AS WE REFLECT ON THE WORD:** Reflect on the gospel and on the Christ of the cross, suffering in the world with all those who are broken.

*Bell is rung.*

**Invitation to share reflections.**

**INTERCESSIONS:**

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 us our prayers of loving and hoping,

Grant us our prayers of yearning and healing.

*Aloud or in silence, share your prayers of concern. Pray for the coming day and for healing within and among people.*

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS**

**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 twisting 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.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**