

## Midday Prayers

*In the style of the Iona Community*



### Opening responses

The world belongs to God,  
*All* **The earth and all its people**

How good it is, how wonderful,  
*All* **To live together in unity**

Love and faith come together,  
*All* **Justice and peace join hands**

If Christ's disciples keep silent  
*All* **These stones would shout aloud**

Open our lips, O God,  
*All* **And our mouths shall proclaim your praise**

### Praise

Saviour eternal,  
life of the world unending,  
light everlasting  
and our true redemption.

Taking our humanity  
in your loving freedom,  
you rescued our lost earth  
and filled the world with joy.

By your first advent justify us,  
by your second, set us free:  
that when the great light dawns  
and you come as judge of all,  
we may be robed in immortality  
and ready, Lord, to follow  
in your footsteps blest, wherever they may lead.

*Salus Aeterna*

### Confession

Holy God, Maker of all  
*All* **Have mercy on us**

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor  
*All* **Have mercy on us**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life  
*All* **Have mercy on us**

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

### *Silence*

*All* **Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:  
to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world. Amen.**

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

### **Prayer for God's help**

Move among us, O God; give us life  
*All* **Let your people rejoice in you**

Make our hearts clean within us  
*All* **Renew us in mind and Spirit**

Give us again the joy of your help  
*All* **With your spirit of freedom sustain us**

### **Collect (Prayer for the Day)**

Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

And now, as Jesus taught us, we say:  
*All* **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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
And deliver us from evil.  
For the Kingdom, the power and the Glory are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen

## Affirmation

With the whole church  
*All* **We affirm that we are made in God's image,  
Befriended by Christ,  
Empowered by the Spirit**

With people everywhere  
*All* **We affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity  
Planted more deeply than all that is wrong**

With all creation  
*All* **We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life;  
The unfolding purposes of God, forever at work  
In ourselves and the world**

## Psalm 80.1-8

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,  
you that led Joseph like a flock;
- 2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim,  
before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
- 3 Stir up your mighty strength  
and come to our salvation.
- 4 Turn us again, O God;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 5 O Lord God of hosts,  
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?
- 6 You feed them with the bread of tears;  
you give them abundance of tears to drink.
- 7 You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

8 Turn us again, O God of hosts;  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## Short reading for the day

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. *Mark 1.1-5*

*The reading may be read twice*

*Silence for reflection*

For the Word of God in scripture,  
for the Word of God among us,  
for the Word of God within us

*All*    **Thanks be to God**

## Prayers of gratitude and concern

*The minister prays Thanksgivings and Intercessions and may use the response*

God, in your love

*All*    **Hear our prayer**

*At the end*

O Christ, the Master Carpenter,  
who at the last, through wood and nails, purchased our whole salvation,  
wield well your tools in the workshop of your world,  
so that we who come rough-hewn to your bench  
may here be fashioned to a truer beauty of your hand.  
We ask it for your own name's sake.

*All*    **Amen**

*Silence*

## Closing responses

This is the day that God has made;

*All*    **We will rejoice and be glad in it**

We will not offer to God

*All*    **Offerings that cost us nothing**

Go in peace to love and to serve  
*All* **We will seek peace and pursue it**

In the name of the Trinity of Love,  
*All* **God in community, Holy and one.**