

Midday Prayers

In the style of the Iona Community



Acknowledgement of Lands and Welcome

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 praised**

I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation;
eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
salvation is of Christ the Lord.

from St Patrick's Breastplate

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 for the Day

Let us pray

God of Sarah and Abraham,
long ago you embraced your people in covenant
and promised them your blessing,
strengthen us in faith,
so that, with your followers in every age,
we may proclaim our deliverance in Jesus Christ
to generations yet unborn.

All **Amen.**

And now, as our brother 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 12

- 1 Help me, Lord, for there is no godly one left; *
the faithful have vanished from among us.
- 2 All speak falsely with their neighbours; *
with a smooth tongue they speak from a double heart.

3 Oh, that the Lord would cut off all smooth tongues, *
and close the lips that utter proud boasts!
4 Those who say, "With our tongue will we prevail; *
our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"
5 "Because the needy are oppressed,
and the poor cry out in misery, *
I will rise up," says the Lord,
"and give them the help they long for."
6 The words of the Lord are pure words, *
like silver refined from ore
and purified seven times in the fire.
7 O Lord, watch over us *
and save us from this generation for ever.
8 The wicked prowl on every side, *
and that which is worthless is highly prized by everyone.

The reading for the day

Our reading comes from the Book of Isaiah. Listen now for the Word of God.

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. *Isaiah 58.6-9a*

Silence

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 response to each section is

God, in your love

All **Hear our prayer**

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.**