

Bell x3

Opening Words

I watch this morning for the light that the darkness has not overcome.

**I watch for the fire that was in the beginning
and that burns still in the brilliance of the rising sun.**

I watch for the glow of life that gleams in this good and growing earth
and glistens forth in sea and sky.

**I watch for your light, O God, in the eyes of every creature
and in the ever-living flame of my own soul.**

If the grace of seeing were mine this day

I would glimpse you in all that lives.

Grant me the grace of seeing this day.

Grant me the grace of seeing you. Amen.

Gratitude

You are invited to offer spoken or silent prayers of gratitude...

By faith

I gaze up to the heavens,

**and know within its vastness
that this is your creation
planned and effected within eternity**

By faith

I pluck an ear of corn,

**and know within its symmetry
lies the chemistry of life,
the potential of creation within my hand**

By faith

I listen for your voice,

**and know the whisper that I hear
breathed a world into existence,
yet listens to the prayer within my soul**

Confession

Dear friends, not out of dread or fear but believing that God is bountiful in mercy, let us confess our sins, ridding ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

We pause in silence for confession...

Lord, purge our eyes to see
 Within the seed a tree,
 Within the glowing egg a bird,
 Within the shroud a butterfly
Till taught by such, we see
Beyond all creatures Thee,
And hearken for thy tender word,
And hear it, "Fear not: it is I."

The God of love and life forgive us – the God of love and life claim us – the God of love and life sustain us as we walk in the way of Christ. **Amen.**

The Poem

The Psalm

... at the end of the Psalm:

Glory to you Source of All Being
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
world without end, Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

♩ = 104 Dm G/D Dm⁷ G/D B^b

I praise you, O God, with all of my heart. With all the earth I will

C B^b C B^b C Dm

Repeats Last time

sing your prais-es. I prais-es.

The Gospel

Bell | Silence | Bell

Following the silence, a time of sharing how God speaks to you and our community...

Our Intercessions

“Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it.” As we rejoice in the gift of this new day let us offer our prayers to God with one heart and one mind.

We offer spoken or silent intercessions to God in prayer ...

A Thanksgiving Prayer

**O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to act for the good of all;
Destroy my complacency,
stir my compassion,
call me to action;
Let me hear your voice in the cry of all those in need
And remember you in all that I take for granted.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*Paraphrase by Jim Cotter*)

As beloved children of a loving Parent
we are bold to pray:

**Eternal Spirit, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker,
Source of all that is and shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The Hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your Justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your Commonwealth of Peace and Freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth!
With the bread that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The vitality of God be ours this day

the vitality of the God of life.

The passion of Christ be ours this day

the passion of the Christ of love.

The wakefulness of the Spirit be ours this day

the wakefulness of the Spirit of justice.

The vitality and passion and wakefulness of God be ours
that we might be fully alive this day

**the vitality and passion and wakefulness of God be ours
that we might be fully alive.**

Sending

Wherever God shows up today,

**may I not be too hurried to notice,
nor too aloof to care.**

When the Sacred surprises me
like an unexpected guest,

may I not hesitate to greet Them with open arms.

Let not my bias be a barrier,

to embracing The Holy's mysterious ways.

May I be hospitable to God enfleshed
in even the dullest circumstances,
and the hardest situations,
and the strangest of places.

I am open

**to encountering Love,
to meeting with Justice,
to being held by Awe.**

May it be so.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all, this day and forever.

Amen

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