

Morning Prayer – Fridays in Ordinary Time / Harvest

One: In the beginning, when it was very dark, God said, “Let there be light”

All: **And there was light**

One: In the beginning, when it was very quiet, the Word was with God

All: **And what God was, the Word was.**

One: When the time was right God sent the Son.

All: **He came among us, He was one of us.**

Leader: The sun rises and it is light, night falls and it is dark.

All: **Bless the One who gives the life.**

Readers A: Sow the seed and cut the corn;

Readers B: Bear the child and build the house;

All: **Bless the One who gives the life.**

Readers A: Lay the stone and light the fire;

Readers B: Cast the net and water the earth;

All: **Bless the One who gives the life.**

Readers A: Serve the guest and pay the price;

Readers B: Nail the wood and pick the flowers;

All: **Bless the One who gives the life.**

Readers A: Make the wine and bake the bread;

Readers B: Pour the wine and break the bread;

All: **Bless the One who gives the life.**

Confession

Land is a gift of God to God’s people.

The scriptures remind us that the people of God.

Are charged with tending, caring, resting and stewarding the land.

But when people violate God’s laws the land is spoiled.

We confess our sin in penitence and with sorrow.

**We grieve at the polluted seas, poisoned atmosphere,
All ugliness, misuse and greed, at arrogant exploitation
And indifference to consequences.**

Have mercy on us, Lord. Heal our lives, and your world. This we pray in the assurance of the redeeming power of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Psalm (ending with)

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.

Meditations with Julian of Norwich

I saw that God was everything that is good and encouraging. God is our clothing that wraps, clasps and encloses us so as never to leave us.

God showed me in my palm a little thing round as a ball about the size of a hazelnut. I looked at it with the eye of my understanding and asked myself: "What is this thing?" And I was answered: "It is everything that is created." I wondered how it could survive since it seemed so little it could suddenly disintegrate into nothing. The answer came: "It endures and ever will endure, because God loves it." And so everything has being because of God's love.

Gospel Acclamation

I know your word, your word is a lamp to my feet, O God. (2X)

I know your word is a lamp, O God, to light my path for ever. (2X)

Gospel

Silence

Shared reflections

Prayers of Gratitude and Concern

One: This we know, the earth does not belong to us,

All: **We belong to the earth.**

One: This we know, all things are connected,

All: **Like the blood that unites one family.**

One: This we know, we did not weave the web of life,

All: **We are merely a strand in it.**

One: This we know, whatever we do to the web,

All: **We do to ourselves.**

One: Let us give thanks for the gift of creation.

All: **Let us give thanks that all things hold together in Christ. Amen.**

Harvest-song

To the singing of the harvest-song goes the life of a year, or of all the years -

The summer that is gone, the winter that is coming; the ones who have sown but are not here to reap; the ones who will sow when the reapers that are have been forgotten; the Good Being who makes the sun shine and the corn ripen. There may be the breath of a sigh in that song, but there is also in it a whole storm of rapture.

Blessing

May the holy and life-giving God

Teach us to reverence all God's works,

To praise God in all we do,

To live in God's image and to God's glory. Amen.

Selected from Iona Abbey Worship Book, by The Iona Community, Wild Goose publications, Glasgow, 2001 and Celtic Daily Prayer, Book one: The Journey begins, William Collins, London, 2015.