

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**

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

God of the sabbath,
this is the day and this is the hour
when women long oppressed stand with dignity,
and when you healing escapes our desire for control:
may your joy stretch the fabric of our hearts
and inspire us to loosen each other's bonds;
through Jesus Christ, the shamer of the powerful
and the raiser of the dead.

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**

Psalm 126

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter
and our tongue with songs of joy.
- 3 Then said they among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'
- 4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us,
and therefore we rejoiced.
- 5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,
as the river beds of the desert.
- 6 Those who sow in tears
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,

will come back with shouts of joy,
bearing their sheaves with them.

The reading for the day

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

The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.'

Isaiah 49.1b-4

Silence, the passage may be read again

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 leads a time of intercession, usually

Thanksgiving for God's goodness

Prayers for the world

Prayers for God's Church

Prayers for those in need, especially the sick in body, mind, or spirit.

Prayers for ourselves

the response to each prayer is

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.**