



Monday November 15th, 2021

Lunchtime Worship

St. John's acknowledges that the Church buildings, and all living in Victoria, are on the ancestral lands of the Lekwungen speaking people.

Gathering to worship

Let us worship together as one voice

All **Amen**

God is with you

All **And also with you.**

This is the day that the Divine has made

All **We will rejoice and be**

glad in it.

Opening Prayer

All **Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit
and in truth Amen**

Blessed is the Creator

All **for God has heard the voice of our prayer.**

The Church Family Prayer

Loving God,

All: you have called us to be your family and to celebrate our life together in worship. We pray now, for all members of our family as we gather in our church buildings, our homes, and online. Through your spirit keep us united in love. Bless each of us with your beloved friendship. Teach us, gracious God, how to be your church in these times. Help us to know that we are your people, that we are your Family, always. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father,

whose blessed Son was revealed

to destroy the works of the devil

and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:

grant that we, having this hope,

may purify ourselves even as he is pure;

that when he shall appear in power and great glory

we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;

where he is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

All:Amen.

Psalm 46

1God is our refuge and strength, ♦
a very present help in trouble;

2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, ♦
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;

3Though the waters rage and swell, ♦
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

4There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, ♦
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.

5God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed; ♦
God shall help her at the break of day.

6The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken, ♦
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.

7*The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦*
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8Come and behold the works of the Lord, ♦
what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.

9He makes wars to cease in all the world; ♦
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.

10'Be still, and know that I am God; ♦
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.'

11*The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦*
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

A prayer for children

Loving God,
your Son told his disciples
to become like little children.
Lead us to work for the welfare
and protection of all young people.
May we respect their dignity
that they may flourish in life,
following the example of our Lord.
Amen.

A prayer of hope

God of compassion,
your love for humanity was revealed in Jesus,
whose earthly life began in the poverty of a stable
and ended in the pain and isolation of the cross:

we hold before you those who are homeless and cold.
Draw near and comfort them in spirit
and bless those who work to provide them
with shelter, food and friendship.

Affirmation

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**

Iona Abbey Worship Book

Let us say together:

The Prayer to Our Father (in the original Aramaic)
Abwûn

Oh Thou, from whom the breath of life comes,
d'bwaschmâja

who fills all realms of sound, light and vibration.
Nethkâdasch schmach

May Your light be experienced in my utmost holiest.
Têtê malkuthach.

Your Heavenly Domain approaches.
Nehwê tzevjânach aikâna d'bwaschmâja af b'arha.

Let Your will come true - in the universe just as on earth.
Hawvlân lachma d'sûnkanân jaomâna.

Give us wisdom for our daily need,
Waschboklân chaubên wachtahên aikâna daf chnân schwoken l'chaijabên.

detach the fetters of faults that bind us, as we let go the guilt of others.
Wela tachlân l'nesjuna

Let us not be lost in superficial things
ela patzân min bischa.

but let us be freed from that which keeps us from our true purpose.
Metol dilachie malkutha wahaila wateschbuchta l'ahlâm almîn.

From You comes the all-working will, the lively strength to act, the song that beautifies all and renews
itself from age to age.
Sealed in trust, faith and truth.
Amen

During this time may our Church be a sign of hope, comfort
and love to all.

Grant peace.

Grant
comfort.

Grant
healing.

Be with us, Lord. Amen.

Gracious God,
All accept these
prayers
In the name of our brother, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

A poem of Comfort by Liz Newman

Amongst the fear and doubt tumble
protect your cherry blush smile,
your baby's breath peace,
your juniper laughter,
and magnolia hope.
protect it. protect it. protect it.

There will be seasons
where your branches
don't bear leaves
and it feels like
the sky will never grant
you another sunny day
but you will reach
a reckoning.
Don't let these cold days
define you.

My hope has turned brittle
beneath these soul clouds.
I wait for the weather to change,
for the branches to bloom,
for the sky to pivot.
These winter hours have stretched
longer than a season
but I will wait. I will wait.

If you have breath
you have purpose.
You are an instrument,
a testament,
that these minutes
can be survived.

When darkness comes,
remember you are resilient.
You will find your way
by the moonlight.

Your heart
will find its strut again.
With hope,
the wreckage
brings you home.

Thank you for spending this time with us today.

All Go in peace to love and serve.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

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