

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 praised**

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**

God of Anna and Simeon,
whose law makes known the gift of life,
whose love exposes our hardness of heart:
by your Spirit, may we receive your faithful word
and know your reconciling presence
offered for all the world;
through Jesus Christ,
the Light and Glory of God.

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**

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 122

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
- 2 And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem;
- 3 Jerusalem, built as a city
that is at unity in itself.
- 4 Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

- 5 For there are set the thrones of judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
'May they prosper who love you.
- 7 'Peace be within your walls
and tranquillity within your palaces.'
- 8 For my kindred and companions' sake,
I will pray that peace be with you.
- 9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good.

The reading for the day

Our reading comes from the Second letter to the Corinthians. Listen now
for the Word of God.

We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as
your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of
darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the
glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. *2 Corinthians 4.5,6*

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 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.**