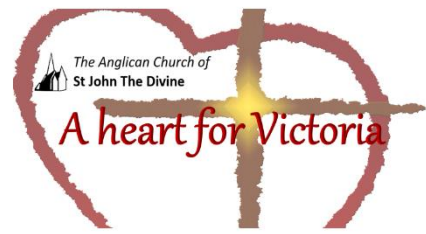


## Midday Prayers

*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**

Eternal God,  
the light of the minds that know you,  
the joy of the hearts that love you,  
and the strength of the wills that serve you:  
grant us so to know you  
that we may truly love you,  
so to love you that we may truly serve you,  
whose service is perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*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 17.1-8**

- 1 Hear my just cause, O Lord; consider my complaint;  
listen to my prayer, which comes not from lying lips.
- 2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence;  
let your eyes behold what is right.
- 3 Weigh my heart, examine me by night,  
refine me, and you will find no impurity in me.
- 4 My mouth does not trespass for earthly rewards;  
I have heeded the words of your lips.

- 5 My footsteps hold fast in the ways of your commandments;  
my feet have not stumbled in your paths.
- 6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me;  
incline your ear to me, and listen to my words.
- 7 Show me your marvellous loving-kindness,  
O Saviour of those who take refuge at your right hand  
from those who rise up against them.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye;  
hide me under the shadow of your wings

## The reading for the day

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

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert. *Isaiah 35.2c-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.**