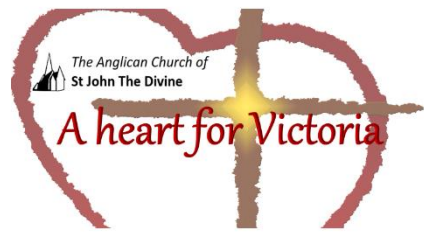


Midday Prayers

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**

Praise

I am giving you worship with all my life,
I am giving you obedience with all my power,
I am giving you praise with all my strength,
I am giving you honour with all my speech.

I am giving you love with all my heart,
I am giving you affection with all my sense,
I am giving you my being with all my mind,
I am giving you my soul, O most high and holy God.

Praise to the Father,
Praise to the Son,
Praise to the Spirit,
The Three in One.

*adapted from Alexander Carmichael,
Carmina Gadelica (1900)*

Confession

Holy God, Maker of all
All **Have mercy on us**

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor
All **Have mercy on us**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life
All **Have mercy on us**

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

Silence

All **Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world. Amen.**

May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.
All **Amen.**

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 (Prayer for the Day)

O God, forasmuch as without you
we are not able to please you;
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever..
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

Short reading for the day

Great crowds came to Jesus, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them.

Matthew 15.30

The reading may be read twice

Silence for reflection

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 prays Thanksgivings and Intercessions and may use the response

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.**