

## 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**

### 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*

### 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**

Go before us, O Lord, in all our doings, with you most gracious favour,  
and further us with your continual help,  
that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you,  
we may glorify your Holy Name, and finally by your mercy  
obtain everlasting Life,  
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 48

- 1 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised, \*  
in the city of our God.
- 2 His holy mountain is fair and lifted high, \*  
the joy of all the earth.
- 3 On Mount Zion, the divine dwelling place, \*  
stands the city of the great king.
- 4 In her palaces God has shown himself \*  
to be a sure refuge.
- 5 For behold, the kings of the earth assembled \*  
and swept forward together.
- 6 They saw, and were dumbfounded; \*  
dismayed, they fled in terror.
- 7 Trembling seized them there;  
they writhed like a woman in labour, \*  
as when the east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.
- 8 As we had heard, so have we seen  
in the city of the Lord of hosts, the city of our God: \*  
God has established her for ever.
- 9 We have waited on your loving-kindness, O God, \*  
in the midst of your temple.
- 10 As with your name, O God,  
so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth; \*  
your right hand is full of justice.
- 11 Let Mount Zion rejoice and the daughters of Judah be glad, \*  
because of your judgements, O Lord.
- 12 Walk about Zion and go round about her;  
count all her towers; \*  
consider well her bulwarks; pass through her citadels,
- 13 That you may tell those who come after  
that such is our God for ever and ever. \*  
It is he that shall be our guide for evermore.

### The reading for the day

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

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised up above the hills. Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid. *Micah 4.1-4a*

*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**

*Extempore prayers may led by the minister, or a time of silent prayer*

*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.**