Morning prayers for May 2021



The morning services for May 2021 are inspired from the Iona Community Worship.

The Lectionary will be used for the readings so that Pentecost is celebrated in our worship.

Only a part of a psalm will be used in some cases as well as some lectionary readings.

Opening responses

The world belongs to God,

**The earth and all its people.**

How good it is, how wonderful,

**To live together in unity.**

Love and faith come together,

**Justice and peace join hands.**

If Christ’s disciples keep silent

**These stones would shout aloud.**

Open our lips, O God,

**And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Confession

Holy God, Maker of all

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life

**Have mercy on us.**

*Silence*

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.

**May God forgive us, Christ renew us,**

**And the spirit enables us to grow in love.**

**Amen.**

Prayer for God’s help

Move among us, O God; give us life:

**Let Your people rejoice in You.**

Make our hearts clean within us:

**Renew us in mind and in spirit.**

Give us again the joy of your help:

**With Your spirit of freedom sustain us.**

As Jesus taught us, we say:

**Our Father in heaven**

**Hallowed be in 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 in the time of trial**

**And deliver us from evil,**

**For the kingdom, the power**

**And the glory are Yours,**

**Now and for ever. Amen.**

Affirmation

With the whole church

**We affirm**

**That we are made in God’s image,**

**Befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere

**We affirm**

**God’s goodness at the heart of humanity,**

**Planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

With all creation

We celebrate

The miracle and wonder of life;

The unfolding purposes of God,

Forever at work in ourselves and the world.

*Psalm*

*The reading for the day*

For the Word of God in scripture,

for the Word of God among us,

for the Word of God within us

**Thanks be to God**

Prayers of gratitude and concern

– the needs of the world and the life of the church

– concerns of the Community

– members of the Community and their families.

(Then the leader says one of the following prayers:)

**Monday**

O God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.

We ask it for your own name’s sake. AMEN.

**Tuesday**

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. AMEN.

**Wednesday**

O God, who gave to your servant Columba

the gifts of courage, faith and cheerfulness,

and sent people forth from Iona

to carry the word of your gospel to every creature:

grant, we pray, a like spirit to your church,

even at this present time.

Further in all things the purpose of our community,

that hidden things may be revealed to us,

and new ways found to touch the hearts of all.

May we preserve with each other

sincere charity and peace,

and, if it be your holy will,

grant that this place of your abiding be continued still

to be a sanctuary and a light.

Through Jesus Christ. Amen

**Thursday**

O God, you have set before us a great hope

that your kingdom will come on earth,

and have taught us to pray for its coming:

make us ready to thank you for the signs of its dawning,

and to pray and work for the perfect day

when your will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven

In the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

**Friday**

O Christ, you are within each of us.

It is not just the interior of these walls:

It is our own inner being you have renewed.

We are your temple not made with hands.

We are your body.

If every wall should crumble, and every church decay,

we are your habitation.

Nearer are you than breathing,

closer than hands and feet.

Ours are the eyes with which you, in the mystery,

look out with compassion on the world.

Yet we bless you for this place,

for your directing of us, your redeeming of us,

and your indwelling.

Take us outside, O Christ, outside holiness,

out to where soldiers curse and nations clash

at the crossroads of the world.

So shall this building continue to be justified

We ask it for your own name’s sake. AMEN

Closing Prayers

This is the day that God has made;

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

We will not offer to God

**Offerings that cost us nothing.**

Go in peace to love and to serve;

**We will seek peace and pursue it.**

In the name of the Trinity of Love,

**God in community, Holy and One.**