

STAPLES

Morning &
Evening Prayer

EVENING PRAYER Thursday July 14th

We begin with the lighting of the candle

Prayer

All: God, source of all light and life,
As this candle is lit,
So may the flame of your loving presence
Spring up in our hearts
And transform us by the knowledge of your glory,
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reading from St Matthews Gospel 7: 7 -11

Ask and it will be given to you; search and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. Is there anyone among you who would hand their son a stone when he asked for bread? Or would hand him a snake when he asked for a fish? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him.

Leader: let us say a prayer for those who we want to remember tonight:

Those who we have left at home, our families and our friends
Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Those who are struggling to come to terms with sickness or bereavement
Lord hear us....

Please add anyone you wish to pray for.....

Lord we believe that you hear our prayer and will be faithful to your promise to answer us. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

All: May God bless us in our sleep with rest, in our dreams with vision, in our waking with a calm mind, in our souls with the friendship of the Holy Spirit this night and every night
Amen

Now I am going to play a song. The words are below so please join in when you are ready. The second verse is sung twice.

Here are my thoughts, Lord
Here is my mind.
Here are my deeds, Lord
Help me unwind.
Here is my strength, Lord
Here is my will.
Here is my life, Lord,
Help me be still

Here is my heart, Lord,
Here is my hope.
Here is my love, Lord,
Help me to cope.
Here is my time, Lord
Here is my might.
Here I am thine, Lord
Bless me tonight

Morning Prayer

Prayer -poem (said antiphonally in two groups)

A Listen to the water, air and earth:
creation's treasure store.
They're wounded for the want
of being listened to:
They cry
and too few hear:
they slowly die
and too few mourn.

B And yet
through those who give attention,
who stretch both hands
to touch, embrace and tend;
through those who marvel, reverence and kneel
and cup the water,
feel the breath of heaven,
and hear the humming earth,
a healing comes
and there are seeds of hope:
there is tomorrow
germinating in today.

A Listen to the stories, dreams and thoughts
of those who have no voice.
They're wounded for the want

of being listened to:
They cry
and too few hear:
they slowly die
and too few mourn.

B And yet
through these who give attention,
who stretch both hands
to touch, embrace, receive;
through these who labour, claim their dignity
and drink the cup of suffering,
breathe winds of change,
and earth their dreams in struggle,
healing comes
and there are seeds of hope:
there is tomorrow
germinating in today.

All Be still.
Be just –
sharing in their truth.
In finding them,
you find yourself.

Kate Compston

Litany (read round the circle, all joining in the response)

R. May we plant good seed and nurture it with our concern
All Creator God, listen to our prayer

R May we sow generously and not be troubled about the reaping
All Imbue us with patience, O Sustaining Spirit

R We are "words" to each other, participating in the activity of Christ
All Loving Lord, help us to spread your word wisely

R May we fertilise the fruits of the spirit by our attitudes and actions
All O Inspiring Wisdom, strengthen us

R May we make the desert flower and safeguard the resources of the planet earth
All O Creator of the Cosmos, deepen our understanding of our connectedness with the
whole of creation

Iona every pray

Prayer (from Iona)

Be still my children
My voice is not always
heard in the thunder and earthquakes
of your experience.
I do not only speak when you are
physically and mentally involved in living.
Be still - and in the stillness I will speak
when you are quiet
when you are resting
when you are aware of me pulsating within
you and around you
when you are waiting and listening
I will break through
and enrich your silence
releasing my peace and glory
and transforming your experience
until in the stillness
you find yourself longing
to shout for joy.

Put yourself in a position of relaxation and think of
the aspects of God's presence in creation that
particularly appeals to you. After a couple of minutes,
share your thoughts with the person next to you (in
turns).

Poem by Edwina Gately (adapted) Sides A and B

A. We are called to become
A perfect creation.
No one is called to become
who we individually are called to be.
It does not matter
How short or tall
Or thick-set or slow
We may be.

B. It does not matter
whether we sparkle with life
Or are silent as a still pool,
Whether we sing your song aloud
Or weep alone in darkness.

A. It does not matter
Whether we feel loved and admired
Or unloved and alone

For we are called to become
A perfect creation
No one's shadow
Should cloud our becoming,
No one's light
Should dispel our spark.

B. For the Lord delights in us
Jealously looks upon us
And encourages with gentle joy
Every movement of the Spirit
Within us.

A. Unique and loved we stand
Beautiful or stunted in our growth
But never without hope and life.

All: For we are called to become
A perfect creation.
This becoming may be
Gentle or harsh,
Subtle or violent,
But it never ceases,
Never pauses or hesitates,
Only is -
Creative force -
Calling us
Calling us to become
A perfect creation

("you" has been replaced by "we" through

The Lord's Prayer (One Possible New Translation from the Aramaic)

O Birthed! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,
Focus your light within us - make it useful:
Create your reign of unity now -

Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in all forms.

Grant what we need each day in bread and insight

Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
as we release the strands we hold
of others' guilt.

Don't let surface things delude us.

But free us from what holds us back.

From you is born all ruling will,
the power and the life to do,
the song that beautifies all,
from age to age it renews.

Truly - power to these statements -
may they be the ground from which all
my actions grow: Amen.

*(From Prayers of the Cosmos
M. Douglas Kirtz)*

Natcog January 2010. CLOSING PRAYERS

All

God of all our growing,
take our roots down deep
in the long, dark winter season
of our grief.
Nurture the resurrection life in us,
in the secret places of the soil,
in the barren, frozen earth, underground,
where no eye can see.
Send your Spirit where the cold season rages
and speak to us the promise of spring.

Nicola Slee

antiphonally)

A I dream of a church
That joins in with God's laughing
As she rocks in her rapture,
Enjoying her art:
She's glad of her world,
In its risking and growing:
'tis the child she has borne
and holds close to her heart.

B I dream of a church
That joins in with God's weeping
As she crouches, weighed down
By the sorrow she sees:
She cries for the hostile,
The cold and no-hoping,
For she bears in herself
Our despair and dis-ease.

A I dream of a church that
Joins in with God's dancing
As she moves like the wind
And the wave and the fire
A church that can pick up
Its skirts, pirouetting,
With the steps that can signal
God's deepest desire.

B I dream of a church that
Joins in with God's loving
As she bends to embrace
The unlovely and the lost.
A church that can free,
By its sharing and daring,

The imprisoned and poor,
And then shoulder the cost.

AW God, make us a church
That joins in with your living
As you cherish and challenge,
Rein in and release,
A church that is winsome,
Impassioned, inspiring:
Lioness of your justice
And lamb of your peace.

(Kate Compston, 'I dream of a church' in *Network*, 58, 19)

Pause

A Blessing

All Unsettling God,
Dizzy with your vision,
May we craft our living
With realized mercies
And unfashionable hope.

Transformed by your message,
May we disrupt idolatrous norms
With the vigor of justice
And the plain language of faith.

Resolute in your embrace,
May we form new foundations
With the endurance of love
And a passion for grace.

Keri Wehlender

Evening Prayer

THE SHARING

Edwina Gately in psalms of a laywoman

A We told our stories—
That's all.
We sat and listened to
Each other
And heard the journeys
Of each soul.
We sat in silence
Entering each one's pain and
Sharing each one's joy.
We heard love's longing
And the lonely reachings-out
For love and affirmation.

B We heard of dreams
Shattered
And visions fled.
Of hopes and laughter
Turned stale and dark.
We felt the pain of
Isolation and
The bitterness
Of death.

A But in each brave and
Lonely story
God's gentle life
Broke through
And we heard music in
The darkness
And smelt flowers in
The void.

B We felt the budding
Of creation
In the searchings of
Each soul
And discerned the beauty
Of God's hand in
Each muddy, twisted path.

A And God's voice sang
In each story
His life sprang from
Each death.
Our sharing became
One story
Of a simple lonely search
For life and hope and
Oneness
In a world which sobs
For love.

B And we knew that in
Our sharing
God's voice with
Mighty breath
Was saying
Love each other and
Take each other's hand.

Song: join in when you
can

3: Bearers Of Peace (4.09)

Cantor: Kevin Walsh

People of Jesus—trusted to be
Bearers of peace from
God's living tree

Peace that the world itself
cannot know

The peace that is given
to plant and to grow

Feel for the ones who have
no more bread

Feel for the ones with children unfed
Longing for food they find
in our hands

A mountain of weapons
more sacred than land

Feel for the ones whose homes
are destroyed

Feel for the lives now shattered
and void

Waiting for loved ones nobody saw
The innocent people who suffer
in war

Stand with the ones who see
a new way

People of faith who struggle
and pray

Given the call to shape and rebuild
Our actions, our consciences
our broken world

Pray for the day our children will see:
War strange and distant as slavery
Work for a world where
new ways abound
To meet and to dialogue
till peace is found

Children of peace go forth
through the earth
Healing our world and bringing
to birth
Vision to build and fashion a way
The fullness of life
for God's people today

From The Restless Heart
Bernadette Farrell

All

Living God, the source of all life,
prompt us into new beginnings.
Ever-present God, travelling alongside us
guide us to walk in your way.
Ever-loving God, surrounding us with care,
help us to detect your presence.

Jan Berry
England

E

EVENING PRAYER Friday 27th OCTOBER.

Opening prayer:

Be with us, Spirit of the Lord, as we assemble in your name.
Teach us what we should do.
Walk with us along the path of justice, love and humility.

Be the source of our inspiration and the author of our decisions.
Join us, so that we may be one in You
and never depart in any way from the truth.

Gathered together in your name, may we deepen our appreciation of your call.

AMEN.

Reading: *Come Lord (Dom Helder Camara)*

Hymn: *Be still for the presence of the Lord.*

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come bow before Him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still for the presence of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him.
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place

Closing prayer:

May the Lord bless us in our searching and our questions.
They are the way to wisdom, enlightenment and peace. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our reflections and our ideas.
No matter the doubts, they are the seeds seeking nourishment,
sunshine and life giving water. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our vision.
No matter the climb, it is a mountain peak calling us to experience God.
AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our decisions.
No matter the mistakes, they are our Yes in life,
Our assent to the field where God is found. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in all our ways this night and evermore.
AMEN

Evening liturgy B

This liturgy presumes that people know or find out each other's names before worship begins. If the *OPTIONAL MEDITATION* is going to be used, everyone should be told in advance what happens, so that they can participate fully.

Opening responses *(Seated or standing)*

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus,
you too were tired
when day was done;
you met your friends at evening time.
ALL: COME, LORD JESUS.

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus,
you too enjoyed
when nights drew on;
you told your tales at close of day.
ALL: COME, LORD JESUS.

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus,
you kindled faith
when lamps were low;
you opened scriptures,
broke the bread,
and shed your light
as darkness fell.
ALL: COME, LORD JESUS,
MEET US HERE.

Song or hymn *(Seated or standing)*

Prayer *(ALL sit)*

Leader: Let us pray.

You broke down the barriers
when you crept in beside us.
For in Jesus ... the smiling Jesus,
the story-telling Jesus,
the controversial Jesus,
the annoying Jesus,
the loving and forgiving Jesus,

your hands touched all, and touched us,
showing how in Christ
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither male nor female:

ALL: ALL ARE ONE IN JESUS CHRIST
AND FOR THIS WE PRAISE YOU.

Leader: You opened our eyes,
to see how the hands of the rich were empty
and the hearts of the poor were full.
You dared to take the widow's mite,
the child's loaves,
the babe at the breast,

and in these simple things
to point out the path to your Kingdom.
You said, 'Follow me!'
for on our own we could never discover
that in Christ

there is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither male nor female:

ALL: ALL ARE ONE IN JESUS CHRIST
AND FOR THIS WE PRAISE YOU.

Leader: You gave us hands to hold:
black hands and white hands,
African hands and Asian hands,
the clasping hands of lovers,
and the reluctant hands of those
who don't believe they are worth holding.
And when we wanted to shake our fist,
you still wanted to hold our hand,
because in Christ
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither male nor female:

ALL: ALL ARE ONE IN JESUS CHRIST
AND FOR THIS WE PRAISE YOU.

Leader: Here in the company
of the neighbour whom we know
and the stranger in our midst,
and the self from whom we turn,
we ask to love as Jesus loved.
Make this the place and time, good Lord,
when heaven and earth merge into one,
and we in word and flesh can grasp
that in Christ
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither male nor female:

ALL: ALL ARE ONE IN JESUS CHRIST,
AND FOR THIS WE PRAISE YOU.
AMEN.

Word of God

(Either a portion of scripture may be read, ending with:

Reader: This is the Gospel/Word of the Lord
ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD.

or

the Leader may invite people to close their eyes and, from memory, to recall what – for them – are significant Gospel pictures of Jesus. The Leader may begin with the following example, then others can follow the pattern, beginning with the phrase, 'I see Jesus ...':

Leader: I see Jesus ...
sitting in a boat looking at the crowds of people
who have come to hear him.

It may be helpful to sing the chant BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD – see Appendix, page 113 – before and after each remembrance. The Leader may end the meditation by saying:

Leader: Thanks be to God who has met us in Jesus.
ALL: AMEN.

Song or hymn

(Optional, but recommended if MEDITATION has been used)

Prayers

(After each category, anyone may offer a name or short prayer for those brought to mind. Each can be followed by a said or sung response, such as:

Cantor: Lord, draw near,
ALL: LORD. DRAW NEAR,
DRAW NEAR, DRAW NEAR AND STAY.

or

Cantor: Lord, in your mercy,
ALL: HEAR OUR PRAYER.)

Leader: Let us say a prayer for those who need to be remembered tonight:

Those who have made the news headlines today
because of what they have done or said ...

Those who have been brought to our attention
through a meeting or conversation ...

Those who are in hospital, in care,
or in a place which is strange to them ...

Those in whose family, marriage
or close relationship,
there is stress or a break-up ...

Those who are waiting for a birth, or a death,
or news which will affect their lives ...

Those who need to forget
the God they do not believe in
and meet the God who believes in them ...

Those whose pain or potential
we should not forget to share with God tonight ...

Lord, we believe that you hear our prayer
and will be faithful to your promise to answer us.

When our eyes open again,
may they do so
not to end our devotions,
but to expect your kingdom,
for Jesus' sake.

ALL: AMEN.

Song or hymn (Seated or standing)

Blessing

(Before the written BLESSING, people may wish to join hands and say thank you to God for each other. The Leader begins by saying: 'Thank you, God, for N ...' [person on his/her left], then that person prays for the person to his/her left and so on round the circle)

Leader: May God bless us
in our sleep with rest,
in our dreams with vision,
in our waking with a calm mind,
in our soul with the friendship of the Holy Spirit
this night and every night.

ALL: AMEN.

Evening liturgy C

Like MORNING LITURGY D, this has been shaped from original material gathered in the Scottish Highlands and Islands. The PRAYER is simple and direct and should not be hurried. For the OPENING RESPONSES, three people should each have a sizeable candle which they light and place in an agreed and visible central location.

Opening responses (Seated)

Leader 1: I will light a light
in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world
and breathed the breath of life for me.

ALL: *(THE IONA GLORIA – see Appendix, page 115 – may be sung as a candle is lit and placed centrally)*

Leader 2: I will light a light
in the name of the Son,
who saved the world
and stretched out his hand to me.

ALL: *(THE IONA GLORIA may be sung as before, as a candle is lit and placed centrally)*

Leader 3: I will light a light
in the name of the Spirit,
who encompasses the world
and blessed my soul with yearning.

ALL: *(THE IONA GLORIA may be sung as before, as a candle is lit and placed centrally)*

1st Friday Liturgy - June 06
The Cosmos - all creatures and the 4 elements

Centring Music - the ocean (CD)

Naming ourselves using the Galilee Stone

Canticle of the Sun - (Francis of Assisi, music from Paul Winter's Earth Mass)

All praise be yours through Brother Sun,
All praise be yours through Sister Moon,
By Mother Earth my Lord be praised,
By Brother Mountain, Sister Sea,
Through Brother Wind and Brother Air,
Through Sister Water, Brother Fire,
The Stars above give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.
All praise be yours through Brother Wolf,
All praise be yours through Sister Whale,
By Nature's song my Lord be praised,
By Brother Eagle, Sister Loon,
Through Brother Tiger, Sister Seal,
Through Sister Flower, Brother Tree,
Let Creatures all give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.

Ask of the Beasts, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Trees, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Flowers, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Winds, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.

Brother Sun, Sister Moon.
Nature human and Divine all around us lies.
Lord of all to thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.
Brother Sun.

ALL SING:

For the Beauty of the Earth Sing, Oh Sing Today,
Of the Sky and at our birth, Sing, Oh Sing Always,
Nature, Human and Divine, all around us lies,
Lord of All to Thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.

The four Elements

1. Fire (the candle is lit)

Reader 1. (Taken from Hildegard of Bingen)

The Holy Spirit is an unquenchable fire
who bestows all excellence
sparks all worth,
awakes all goodness,
ignites speech
inflames humanity.

Yet in this radiance is a restorative stillness.
It is the stillness that is similarly in the will to good.
It spreads to all sides...
O Holy Spirit
Fiery Comforter Spirit
Life of the life of all creatures,
Holy are you,
you that give existence
to all form.
Holy are you, you that cleanse deep hurt.
Fire of love, breath of all holiness.

AIR (Lay-down a feather as a symbol of air.)

Breathing exercise

Reader 2

Humankind should ponder God,
recognize God's wonders and signs.
The blowing wind, the mild moist air,
the exquisite greening of trees and grasses -
In their beginning,
in their ending,

they give God their praise.
The air, blowing everywhere
serves all creatures.
Ever is the firmament its support.
Ever is it held, carried, by the power of God..
God's word is in all creation,
visible and invisible

WATER (put down bowl of water and bushy twig)

Reader 3

I the fiery life of divine wisdom.
I adorn all the earth.
I am led by the spirit to feed
the purest streams.
I am the rain
coming from the dew
that causes the grasses to laugh
with the joy of life.
I call forth tears,
the aroma of holy work.
I am the yearning for good.
(Sprinkle each other with the water, in turn round the circle, with the phrase "may this
water cleanse and heal you" or something similar)

EARTH (Put down bowls of earth and of sprouting shoots)

Reader 4

The Earth is mother of all that is natural,
mother of all that is human.

She is the mother of all,
for contained in her
are the seeds of all.

The earth of humankind
contains all moistness,
all verdancy,

all germinating power.

It is in so many ways fruitful.

All creation comes from it.

Yet it forms not only the basic
raw material for humankind,
but also the substance
of the incarnation of God's son.

Intercessions (shoots are planted in the bowl of earth as each prays aloud, or silently if preferred)

Making Collages: in 4 groups, each one based on one of the 4 elements (indoors)

Sharing of the collages (come outdoors again)

Song: on the theme

Navajo Prayers (N, W, E and S) See appended sheet

AGAPE OF THE SUMMER FRUITS (E and W to read first and 3rd verse, N and S the 2nd and 4th, all to read the final verse)

1. We belong to one another and all creation and through this bond to Jesus, who, on the day he handed over his freedom to those who would abuse him, had a meal with his friends, eating and drinking with them.

So we eat together as a symbol of sharing our common humanity.

2. We celebrate our freedom to choose, born of the breaking down of old ways.

We proclaim the possibility of new life. We declare our intention to live in that hope.

3. Now we are joined together, women of faith, with all who seek God's freedom.

We live and search together for a shared vision of cosmos in which all are free to enjoy God's generosity. We keep alive the memory of the Crucifixion of Jesus together with his Resurrection. We root the possibility of our freedom in this experience.

4 Strengthening God, take away all that prevents us achieving this:

Strengthening God, take away all that prevents us achieving this:

Strengthening God, give us true peace

(All) We pray that we will be made new to live our life in the peace born of true freedom. We choose from these fruits symbols of God's generosity.

(pass bowl of fruits to the person next to you, saying "choose freely of the fruits of God's generosity" or some similar expression)

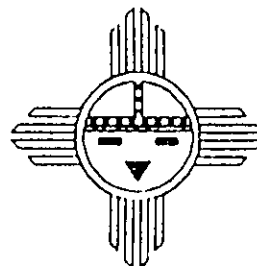
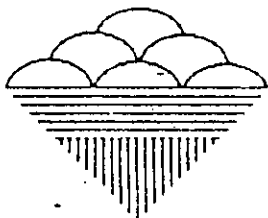
Circle Dance

The readings are from Meditations of Hildegard of Bingen by Gabriele Uhlein. The Agape of Summer Fruits is by June Boyce Tillman.

NAVAJO PRAYERS (These came from a Navajo catholic Church in the States- get into 4 groups)

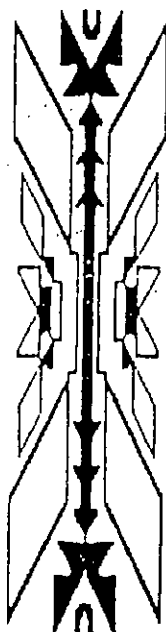
Direction of the North

We greet you, O Spirit of the North. You are the cold wind that blows across our land, stripping the earth of all that is dead and decayed. AYou rob us of the false securities, so easily blown away. Teach us to plant our feet securely on the earth and to see things as they really are, that the coming of your Spirit may find us standing firm in integrity. Make us strong in our desire to be peacemakers.



Direction of the West

We greet you, O Spirit of the West. It is you who usher in the setting sun. It is by your power that the sun hangs suspended for endless moments before you catch it with your breath and carry it off into the night. Guide our steps at end of day. Fill us with your peace as you enfold us with your great mystery of night that we might rest securely in your arms until morning calls us forth again.

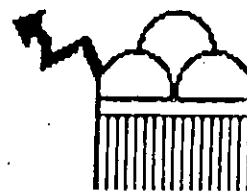
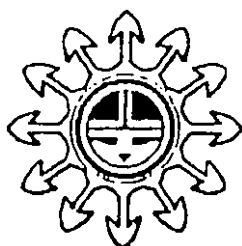


Direction of the East

We greet you, O Spirit of the East. You usher in the dawn of the breeze; you stretch forth your fingers and paint our skies. Awaken in us with each new day, new hopes, new dreams of colors, loves and joys, new desires for justice never before imagined. Fill our bodies with your breath; invigorate us. Carry us to the farthest mountains and beyond. Inspirit us that we might reach out to you boldly to grasp the miracles that are given birth with each new dawn.

Direction of the South

We greet you, O Spirit of the South. You bring the winds of summer and breathe on us the warmth of the sun to soothe and heal our bodies and spirits. You thaw and soften the coldness of our world; you nudge the seedlings to break through the soil to the light. Make our hearts loving, so that we might feel the oppression and pain of all peoples, especially the poor and marginated. Heal our selfishness that we might become a more generous and sharing people.



From: Prayer Service opening Provincial Play Day

y03\cwnjn95

CWN Liturgy July 95 - Dulwich - on a theme of growth.

Centring music - Viriditas of Hildegard (tape)

(From Meditations with Hildegard of Bingen)

Read round the circle

I am the one whose praise echoes on high.
I adorn all the earth.

I am the breeze that nurtures all things green.
I encourage blossoms to flourish with ripening fruits.

I am the rain coming from the dew
that causes the grasses to laugh with the joy of life

I am the yearning for good.

Invisible life that sustains all
I awaken to life everything.

(short pause)

Truly the Holy Spirit is an unquenchable fire

Bestowing all excellence, sparking all worth, awaking all goodness,
igniting speech, enflaming humankind.

Holy Spirit, all creation praises you
creation has life because of you

You are a precious salve for broken bones, for festering wounds.
You transform them to precious gems.

(short pause)

Who are the prophets? They are a royal people
who penetrate mystery and see with the spirit's eyes.

In illuminating darkness they speak out

They are living, penetrating clarity.
They are a blossom blooming only on the shoot that is rooted in
the flood of light.

Song Mother Earth (Miriam Winter.) taped but join in the later
verses. (on p 4)

Reading from Joan Puls "Every Bush Is Burning"

Discussion in two's or threes How do you feel about the analogy
of growth in nature and growth in ourselves. What parts of us
need to grow - how can we be good gardeners of our own growth?

Song Fruit and Seed (see p 4)

Making of a flowery mead - if fine search the garden for flowers, petals, twigs etc to make a garden on the table. If it is wet draw and cut out flowers etc

Litany on God of growth from "To Worship in Stillness"

Reading John 15.1-8

Leader This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Leader Lord, in all your creation
we see the profusion of growth;
the variety of fruits:
the cycle of regeneration.

Leader In every acorn

All there is the potential for a forest;

Leader in every apple pip

All there is the potential for an orchard;

Leader in every soul

All there is the potential for your kingdom,
to be established,
full of peace, and joy, and love.
O Lord, may your kingdom come,
in us and in all creation.

Silence In the attentive stillness, long for the
Kingdom of God to come in you and in the
whole world.

Leader Let us pray together
for the growth of the kingdom . . .
For many hearts to be alerted
to their need of God, and fullness of life

Silence

All Lord, may your kingdom come.

Leader For all who have put their trust
in money, possessions and success,
and feel the nudge of disillusion.

Silence

All Lord, may you kingdom come.

Leader For those in whom spiritual growth
is fragile and vulnerable.

Silence

All Lord, may your kingdom come.

Leader The growing may be painful;

All root-growth may be unseen;

Leader we may sometimes prefer the seed we are

All to the tree we might become.

Leader Lord, give us courage for the growing.

All that we may grow tall in your love
and bear fruit in abundance for your glory,
and for the good of your world. Amen.

Planting for the future A seed tray is handed round and as each person puts in a seed offer a prayer, out loud or if preferred, in silence.

Song Now the Green blade Riseth

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain
wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love who had been slain
thinking that never he would wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain
he that for three days in the grave had lain,
quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry; grieving or in pain
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our heart that dead and bare have been:
love is come again like wheat that springeth green

Agape

All: We share this loaf today, as a sign that we are all one in the body of Christ. Just as many grains came together in the one loaf, so we are all one in Christ Jesus. Help us to reflect the life giving love of the Creator, Redeemer and Spirit in all our relationships and actions.

(each breaks off some bread to give to the person next to them, saying "The Bread of Life")

All: we take the fruit of the vine, grown in the earth, warmed by the sun and nurtured by the rain. This has become for us a cup of life, reminding us that Christ poured out his blood for us, that we might grow into new life.

(the cup is passed round, each saying to their neighbour "the cup of new life")

The Peace All hold hands and sing shalom, then greet each other

Shalom my friends, shalom my friends shalom, shalom
the peace of Christ be with you today, Shalom, shalom (x3)

8/ MOTHER EARTH

Words and music by
Miriam Therese Winter

Refrain ♩ = 96

E F#m E F#m E C#m

Moth - er earth, sis - ter sea, giv - ing birth, en - er - gy,

F#m B7 E *Fine* 2

reach - ing out, touch - ing me lov - ing - ly.

Verses

E9 E C#m F#m B7 E

Formed from earth's own flesh and bone,
From the pri - mal womb, we are
With the rain we min - gle tears,
As our lives are flow - er - ing,
Blessed be God, Her wom - an's touch

A E F#m C#m/G# B7 E 3

one with silt and sand and stone.
called to kin - ship with the stars.
to the winds we toss the years.
all the cos - mic voic - es sing.
gives us earth, who gives so much.

SONG

Fruit and Seed

tune: "Greensleeves"

We are the fruit; we are the seed,
The past is spiraling through us.
What life will bloom, no one can tell,
The cycle keeps on moving.

Refrain:

This is our mothers' gift,
the cycle spiraling through us.
Thanks, thanks, to them we sing
and give it to our daughters.

Future and past are with us now,
We're moving on together.
We're gaining strength from her-story
The gift from mothers to daughters.

We are the old and we are new,
The future's spiraling onward.
The cycle bonds in sister love,
The future now we are making.

— Words: Sandra Amundsen,
Sing a Woman Song

1st Friday Liturgy - June 06
The Cosmos - all creatures and the 4 elements

Centring Music - the ocean (CD)

Naming ourselves using the Galilee Stone

Canticle of the Sun - (Francis of Assisi, music from Paul Winter's Earth Mass)

All praise be yours through Brother Sun,
All praise be yours through Sister Moon,
By Mother Earth my Lord be praised,
By Brother Mountain, Sister Sea,
Through Brother Wind and Brother Air,
Through Sister Water, Brother Fire,
The Stars above give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.
All praise be yours through Brother Wolf,
All praise be yours through Sister Whale,
By Nature's song my Lord be praised,
By Brother Eagle, Sister Loon,
Through Brother Tiger, Sister Seal,
Through Sister Flower, Brother Tree,
Let Creatures all give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.

Ask of the Beasts, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Trees, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Flowers, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Winds, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.

Brother Sun, Sister Moon.
Nature human and Divine all around us lies.
Lord of all to thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.
Brother Sun.

ALL SING:

For the Beauty of the Earth Sing, Oh Sing Today,
Of the Sky and at our birth, Sing, Oh Sing Always,
Nature, Human and Divine, all around us lies,
Lord of All to Thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.

The four Elements

1. Fire (the candle is lit)

Reader 1. (Taken from Hildegard of Bingen)

The Holy Spirit is an unquenchable fire
who bestows all excellence
sparks all worth,
awakes all goodness,
ignites speech
inflames humanity.

Yet in this radiance is a restorative stillness.
It is the stillness that is similarly in the will to good.
It spreads to all sides...
O Holy Spirit
Fiery Comforter Spirit
Life of the life of all creatures,
Holy are you,
you that give existence
to all form.
Holy are you, you that cleanse deep hurt.
Fire of love, breath of all holiness.

AIR (Lay-down a feather as a symbol of air.)

Breathing exercise

Reader 2

Humankind should ponder God,
recognize God's wonders and signs.
The blowing wind, the mild moist air,
the exquisite greening of trees and grasses -
In their beginning,
in their ending,

they give God their praise.
The air, blowing everywhere
serves all creatures.
Ever is the firmament its support.
Ever is it held, carried, by the power of God..
God's word is in all creation,
visible and invisible

WATER (put down bowl of water and bushy twig)

Reader 3

I the fiery life of divine wisdom.
I adorn all the earth.
I am led by the spirit to feed
the purest streams.
I am the rain
coming from the dew
that causes the grasses to laugh
with the joy of life.
I call forth tears,
the aroma of holy work.
I am the yearning for good.
(Sprinkle each other with the water, in turn round the circle, with the phrase "may this
water cleanse and heal you" or something similar)

EARTH (Put down bowls of earth and of sprouting shoots)

Reader 4

The Earth is mother of all that is natural,
mother of all that is human.

She is the mother of all,
for contained in her
are the seeds of all.

The earth of humankind
contains all moistness,
all verdancy,
all germinating power.

It is in so many ways fruitful.
All creation comes from it.
Yet it forms not only the basic
raw material for humankind,
but also the substance
of the incarnation of God's son.

Intercessions (shoots are planted in the bowl of earth as each prays aloud, or silently if preferred)

Making Collages: in 4 groups, each one based on one of the 4 elements (indoors)

Sharing of the collages (come outdoors again)

Song: on the theme

Navajo Prayers (N, W, E and S) See appended sheet

AGAPE OF THE SUMMER FRUITS (E and W to read first and 3rd verse, N and S the 2nd and 4th, all to read the final verse)

1. We belong to one another and all creation and through this bond to Jesus, who, on the day he handed over his freedom to those who would abuse him, had a meal with his friends, eating and drinking with them.

So we eat together as a symbol of sharing our common humanity.

2. We celebrate our freedom to choose, born of the breaking down of old ways.
We proclaim the possibility of new life. We declare our intention to live in that hope.

3. Now we are joined together, women of faith, with all who seek God's freedom.
We live and search together for a shared vision of cosmos in which all are free to enjoy God's generosity. We keep alive the memory of the Crucifixion of Jesus together with his Resurrection. We root the possibility of our freedom in this experience.

4 Strengthening God, take away all that prevents us achieving this:
Strengthening God, take away all that prevents us achieving this:
Strengthening God, give us true peace

(All) We pray that we will be made new to live our life in the peace born of true freedom. We choose from these fruits symbols of God's generosity.

(pass bowl of fruits to the person next to you, saying "choose freely of the fruits of God's generosity" or some similar expression)

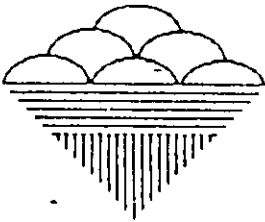
Circle Dance

The readings are from Meditations of Hildegard of Bingen by Gabriele Uhllein. The Agape of Summer Fruits is by June Boyce Tillman.

NAVAJO PRAYERS (These came from a Navajo catholic Church in the States- get into 4 groups)

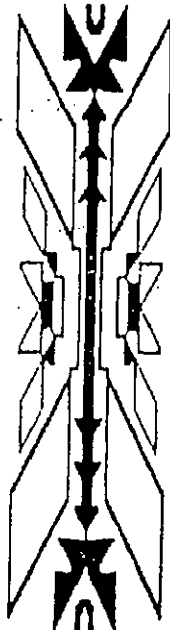
Direction of the North

We greet you, O Spirit of the North. You are the cold wind that blows across our land, stripping the earth of all that is dead and decayed. AYou rob us of the false securities, so easily blown away. Teach us to plant our feet securely on the earth and to see things as they really are, that the coming of your Spirit may find us standing firm in integrity. Make us strong in our desire to be peacemakers.



Direction of the West

We greet you, O Spirit of the West. It is you who usher in the setting sun. It is by your power that the sun hangs suspended for endless moments before you catch it with your breath and carry it off into the night. Guide our steps at end of day. Fill us with your peace as you enfold us with your great mystery of night that we might rest securely in your arms until morning calls us forth again.

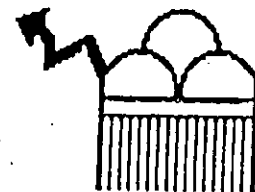
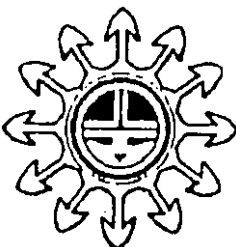


Direction of the East

We greet you, O Spirit of the East. You usher in the dawn of the breeze; you stretch forth your fingers and paint our skies. Awaken in us with each new day, new hopes, new dreams of colors, loves and joys, new desires for justice never before imagined. Fill our bodies with your breath; invigorate us. Carry us to the farthest mountains and beyond. Inspirit us that we might reach out to you boldly to grasp the miracles that are given birth with each new dawn.

Direction of the South

We greet you, O Spirit of the South. You bring the winds of summer and breathe on us the warmth of the sun to soothe and heal our bodies and spirits. You thaw and soften the coldness of our world; you nudge the seedlings to break through the soil to the light. Make our hearts loving, so that we might feel the oppression and pain of all peoples, especially the poor and margined. Heal our selfishness that we might become a more generous and sharing people.



From: Prayer Service opening Provincial Play Day



Wild Goose, the Celtic symbol for the Holy Spirit

*We take an object from the basket as it passed round the circle.
Then we share our names and say something about what we have chosen.
Keep the object in your hand.*

1. For the darkness of waiting,
of not knowing what is to come
of staying ready and quiet and attentive,
we praise you, O God.

**All: For the darkness and the light
Are both alike to you.**

2. For the darkness of staying silent
and the terror of having nothing to say
and for the greater terror
of needing to say nothing.
we praise you, O God.

**All: For the darkness and the light
Are both alike to you.**

3. For the darkness of loving
in which it is safe to surrender
to let go of our self protection
and to stop holding back our desire,
we praise you, O God.

**All: For the darkness and the light
Are both alike to you.**

4. For the darkness of choosing
when you give us the moment
to speak, and act, and change,
and we cannot know what we have set in motion,
but we still have to take the risk,
we praise you, O God.

**All: For the darkness and the light
Are both alike to you.**

5. For the darkness of hoping
in a world which longs for you.
for the wrestling and the labouring of all creation
we praise you, O Lord.

**All: For the darkness and the light
Are both the same to you.**

(Janet Morley in BREAD OF TOMORROW)

In a time of silence we think about what has been happening to us in the last month – perhaps our thoughts of the coming Winter, or the progress around the country of St Therese's bones. Or the turmoil over the place of women in the Church.

At the end of the silence please share with your neighbour what you have been meditating on.

OPEN SHARING

INTERCESSIONS

We offer our intercessions, and put the object we have chosen in a circle around the candle.

We give thanks

All: For all that is good.

6. Let us give thanks
for the continuity of the universe,
for the sun rising day by day,
and the moon rising night by night.
For all the life with which we share this planet;
for the interactions and connections that bind us to it,
and the elements of which all is composed.
Let us give thanks.

All: And seek to live in harmony with all about us.

7. Let us give thanks
for the flow of human history,
for the events that have shaped and moulded us
And all our sisters and brothers.
For those who question this history
For those who unearth the stories of the vanquished,
The oppressed, the forgotten, the unrecorded.
Let us give thanks

**All: And take our place in the human story,
Struggling for the unity of humankind.**

8. Let us give thanks
for those who have provided inspiration and hope;
for prophets and martyrs and poets;
thinkers and preachers and healers;
for those who have linked thought and action;
for reformers and rebels and strikers.
Let us give thanks

All: And join with them in the quest for justice.

9. Let us give thanks
For all who have revealed or discovered deep and lasting truths;
Let us celebrate their lives and deaths,
Their thoughts and writings, their continuing witness in the world today.
Let us give thanks,

All: And share in spreading this prophetic vision.

10. Today we give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth,
In whom Christians believe that God was present,
A channel through which God was made known to humans;
11. Who, on the night of his betrayal, feasted with his friends,
And took bread, and gave thanks, and broke it
and gave it to his friends, saying,
12. Take this and eat it.
This is my body broken for you,
Do this to re-member me.
13. In the same way after supper,
He took the cup of the juice of the vine, gave thanks,
And gave it to them saying,
14. Drink from it all of you,
This is my blood of the new covenant,
Poured out for you and for many.
15. Do this whenever you drink it,
To re-member me.

All: We give thanks.

16. So today we share bread and the fruit of the vine together
As a sign that we are one humanity,
As a pledge that we will work for justice,
As a foretaste of that which can be
Despite what is and what has been.
17. May the spirit that guides us all
Be present in this feast.
Taking this bread and this fruit of the vine,
The concerns that we have expressed,
The lives that we lead,
And transforming them all
For the unity of all creation
And the service of love.
18. God, whose body is all creation.
May we come to know you in all the earth,
and feel you in our blood.
So will no part of us, or the world.
be lost to your transforming grace.
19. Alleluia! This living bread is broken
For the life of the world.

All: Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.

We share the bread and grape juice around the circle.

20. Those who work for change suffer resistance.
All: So make us strong
21. Those who do new things sometime feel afraid.
All: So make us brave.
22. Those who challenge the world as it is arouse anger,
All: So grant us inner peace.
23. Those who live joyfully are envied
All: So make us generous.
24. Those who try to love encounter hate.
All: So make us steadfast in you.

ALL: Now may every living beings,
Young or old,
Living near or far,
Known to us or unknown
Living, departed, or yet to be born,
May every living being
Be full of bliss.
So be it.

All except the first prayer came from WOMEN INCLUDED

the peace - sung holding hands

Shalom my friends, shalom my friends, shalom shalom
The peace of Christ I give you today, shalom, shalom (x3)

Final words from the celebrant

All say the blessing

Ever-loving God,
may we, the people of the bread,
live for a world in which no one hungers;
may we, the people of the vine
live for a world in which no one is excluded;
and may all who have shared in
the body and blood of your Son
love our brothers and sisters
rejoicing to know that you loved us first.

Christian Aid)

34. LOVE (Final Song)

1. We sing a love that sets all people free,
That blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,
Enfolds like earth, springs up like water clear.
Come, living love, live in our hearts today.
2. We sing a love that seeks another's good,
That longs to serve and not to count the cost,
A love that, yielding, finds itself made new.
Come, caring love, live in our hearts today.
3. We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
To be itself, despite another's wrath,
A love that stands alone and undismayed.
Come, strength'ning love, live in our hearts today.
4. We sing a love that, wand'ring, will not rest
Until it finds its way, its home, its source,
Through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed.
Come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.
5. We sing a burning, fiery, Holy Ghost
That seeks out shades of ancient bitterness.
Transfig'ring these, as Christ in ev'ry heart.
Come joyful love, live in our hearts today.

1. We shall go out with gratitude within us
For signposts, guides and waymarks in our lives,
And friendships formed in laughter and in sadness;
For when we sense support, our hearts revive.

2. May we in strength fulfil the needs of others,
Not let our fear destroy the truth within;
May we seek justice for a whole creation
In tune with One who is our origin.
(And stay in tune with One who is our origin.)

Text : June Boyce-Tillman.

Tune : INTERCESSOR

It will also fit the tune Londonderry by substituting the bracketed lines for the final lines of verses 2 and 4

3. We praise this Source of all that is created,
The model of our creativity;
May we be one with all that is life-giving,
Not lose our way in negativity.

4. For we would walk in happiness and sorrow,
Yet keep in touch with wellsprings deep inside;
So shall we come to know abundant living,
And share in God a love that's deep and wide.
(And share in God a love that is both deep and wide)

1. We shall go out with gratitude within us
For signposts, guides and waymarks in our lives,
And friendships formed in laughter and in sadness;
For when we sense support, our hearts revive.

2. May we in strength fulfil the needs of others,
Not let our fear destroy the truth within;
May we seek justice for a whole creation
In tune with One who is our origin.
(And stay in tune with One who is our origin.)

Text : June Boyce-Tillman.

Tune : INTERCESSOR

It will also fit the tune Londonderry by substituting the bracketed lines for the final lines of verses 2 and 4

3. We praise this Source of all that is created,
The model of our creativity;
May we be one with all that is life-giving,
Not lose our way in negativity.

4. For we would walk in happiness and sorrow,
Yet keep in touch with wellsprings deep inside;
So shall we come to know abundant living,
And share in God a love that's deep and wide.
(And share in God a love that is both deep and wide)

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE

(Lumen Religious Books Trust) 36 Court Lane, Dulwich, London SE21 7DR e mail:
lumen@globalnet.co.uk Open by appointment, days, evenings, weekends. Ring/Fax Ianthe Pratt) 020 8693 1438. The purpose of the Centre is to provide information and resources that will illuminate the issues concerning the full participation of women in the life and thinking of the Christian churches and beyond, and on intergender relations.

REFERENCE LIBRARY and Reading Room of books, documents, theses, videos and cassettes. There are no loan facilities but there is a photocopier available.

INFORMATION SERVICE Advice and information on what is currently being done, organisations, conferences etc.

WORSHIP DATA BANK In conjunction with the Association for Inclusive Language a resource bank of sheet liturgies is available together with advice on adapting worship for the needs of groups, families etc.

BOOKLISTS The Centre issues an annotated booklist, updated annually -20 pages, £2 post free. This is also available by e mailing lumen@globalnet.co.uk

PROVISION OF BOOKS Books are available for sale or can be ordered. There is also a postal service for books.

BOOKS ON SALE OR RETURN Organisers of conferences, lectures courses and other evens can obtain books on Sale or Return, either collecting them or being sent by post.

SERVICE FOR STUDENTS Materials and resource packs available for GCSE, A level and degree courses. (student material list 2 x 2nd class stamps)

SP
USA

FRIDAY EVENING
INVOCATION OF THE SPIRIT

Welcome

We gather together this evening to open this conference devoted to envisioning the church women want. We come together as women and men of diverse backgrounds, experiences, interests and ages – artists, educators, students, service providers, ministers, parents, activists, and contemplatives to celebrate in ritual and story, in analysis and in prophetic witness, the past, present, and future of women in the Catholic Church. Our mission is to commit ourselves to justice and inclusion in our Church, to be a voice for wholeness and holiness. We add our prayerful reflection to the women of all ages and faiths who have contributed their own skills, abilities, insights, talents and time in pushing forward the future. We welcome our featured speakers, Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, Elizabeth Johnson, Miriam Therese Winter, and Edwina Gately, our panelists, our participants, planners, and guests as together we create a new vision for the Catholic Church in the 21st Century.

Gathering Prayer

Let us pray:

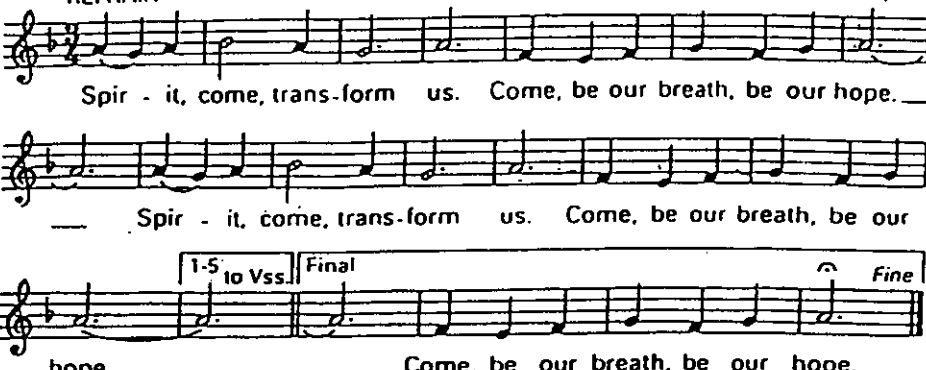
Come, Sophia-God, Wisdom,
speak your Ways in our hearts.
Grant us your vision and light.

Guide us in our search for truth.
Pry us off dead centers, and
set our feet to fresh paths.

Come, Oh Spirit,
Breath of God,
dispel the shadows over us for the sake of
renewing and strengthening your people.

Spirit of Compassion, Holy One,
May your Love call us to rebirth.
Bless us this night with openness of heart.
Be our Guide, our Counsel. COME.

REFRAIN

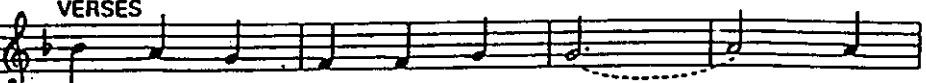


Spir - it, come, trans-form us. Come, be our breath, be our hope. ___

___ Spir - it, come, trans-form us. Come, be our breath, be our

hope. ___ Come, be our breath, be our hope.

VERSES



1. Deep in the womb of our heart re -
2. Draw us to share oth - ers' bur - dens, }
3. You are the one who u - nites us in
4. Sing in our heart, be the danc - er, }
5. Teach us to live with com - pas - sion, un -



1. veal ___ your pres-ence, O God. _____
2. heal-ing and lov - ing with truth. _____
3. striv-ing for jus - tice, for peace. _____
4. birth-ing our love as we grow. _____
5. fold - ing cre - a - tor's love. _____

to Refrain

© 1988, Gregory Norbet. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

A Reading on Wisdom

Wisdom 6: 12-19

Wisdom is brilliant, she never fades.

By those who love her, she is readily seen,

by those who seek her, she is readily found.

She anticipates those who desire her by making herself known first.

Whoever gets up early to seek her will have no trouble

but will find her sitting at the door.

Meditating on her is understanding in its perfect form,

and anyone keeping awake for her will soon be free from care.

For she herself searches everywhere for those who are worthy of her,

benevolently appearing to them on their ways,

anticipating their every thought.

For Wisdom begins with the sincere desire for instruction,

care for instruction means loving her,

loving her means keeping her laws,

attention to her laws guarantees incorruptibility,

and incorruptibility brings us near to God.

Litany

All: Spirit of Wisdom, we remember the women, who throughout the ages have received your gifts and used them to transform the world. We call upon these sisters to help us discover your truth within ourselves, and to guide us in discerning new paths of hope.

Leader: We call upon SARAH, who with Abraham, answered God's call to trust their covenant with God. We remember the courage of RUTH and NAOMI, and the depth of their love for one another.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon MARY MAGDALENE, and the other women who followed Jesus, who were not believed when they announced the resurrection. We rejoice in their persistence in the face of skepticism.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon PHOEBE, PRISCILLA, and all other women leaders of the early Church. We take heart in their commitment to spread the Gospel and their leadership, which inspired Christian communities of faith.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon the Abbesses of the Middle Ages who kept faith in challenging, turbulent times. We remember their lives of prayer, and the authentic choices that sprung from that prayer.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon JULIAN of Norwich, CATHERINE of Siena, and TERESA of Avila who spoke back to the corruption of institutions in their time. We rejoice in the power of their voices, a power borne of contemplative vision.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo who risked disappearance themselves by breaking the silence and telling the truth of injustice done to loved ones. We take heart in their courage and their ability to replace fear with prophetic imagination.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Leader: We call upon the women and men gathered here, friends of God, lovers of wisdom who desire to act with creative fidelity, to embrace diversity, and to move toward a more expansive love.

All: We remember, we rejoice, we take heart.

Blessing and Lighting of Candles

1st Candle

Blessed are you, Creator of the Universe,
who sings our world into being
and spins new possibilities
upon dormant hope in our hearts.

You guide us on the road toward
wholeness.
Enlighten our efforts with your faithful presence.

All: Gather us into Your New Creation to help us begin anew.

2nd Candle

Blessed are you, Liberating Companion,
who feels the pain of those who grieve
and who celebrates the joy of those who rejoice.

Stir within us a passion for justice.
Teach us to be like you,
to treat all creatures with respect and dignity.

*All: Gather us into Your Holy Power
to help us embody Your Love.*

3rd Candle

Blessed are you, Spirit of Wisdom and Peace,
whose grace-filled movement breaks open our lives.

You sustain us with Your breath, united to our own.
Enkindle in us a spirit of hope, reverence and awe.

*All: Gather us into Your Peace
until we are one with You.*

LET THE CONFERENCE BEGIN.

*Special thanks to Hilda Carey, Mary Kantor (musician), John Konicek, Jenni Mather, Theresa O'Keefe,
Jen Tilghman-Havens, and Kathy Tardiff*

CWN Liturgy 1 July 05 THE WHOLENESS OF CREATION

Centring music

Introducing ourselves, handing on the Galilee stone.

Canticle of Brother Sun - (from Paul Winter's Earth Mass)

All praise be yours through Brother Sun,
All praise be yours through Sister Moon,
By Mother Earth my Lord be praised,
By Brother Mountain, Sister Sea,
Through Brother Wind and Brother Air,
Through Sister Water, Brother Fire,
The Stars above give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.
All praise be yours through Brother Wolf,
All praise be yours through Sister Whale,
By Nature's song my Lord be praised,
By Brother Eagle, Sister Loon,
Through Brother Tiger, Sister Seal,
Through Sister Flower, Brother Tree,
Let Creatures all give thanks to Thee,
All praise to those who live in peace.

Ask of the Beasts, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Trees, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Flowers, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.
Ask of the Winds, and they shall teach thee
the beauty of the Earth.

Brother Sun, Sister Moon.

ALL SING:

For the Beauty of the Earth Sing, Oh Sing Today,
Of the Sky and at our birth, Sing, Oh Sing Always,
Nature, Human and Divine, all around us lies,
Lord of All to Thee we raise grateful hymns of praise.

God Created Woman

L. On the 6th day God created woman and God said to her I shall give to you

- ① a heart full of compassion
- ② a spirit to fly with the birds
- ③ a vessel to carry life into the world
- ④ Courage to rise above oppression
- ⑤ Wisdom to know great truths
- ⑥ STRENGTH TO MOVE MOUNTAINS
- ⑦ GENTLENESS TO KISS THE EARTH
- ⑧ Passion to set the world on fire
- ⑨ Vision to respect the earth that bore you
- ⑩ a playful nature to dance with children
- ⑪ Laughter to fill the valleys
- ⑫ Intuition to know the unknown
- ⑬ Tears to wash the pain away
- ⑭ Desire to be that which God created her

ALL GOD SAID TO HER

WOMAN

I HAVE CREATED YOU IN MY IMAGE & LIKENESS AND

YOU ARE GOOD

Morning Prayer - Centring Music - Bach

2. Free form version of psalm 17. (said by all)
Loving Creator, hear our prayer
and listen to our call made in the spirit of truth.

You know what we are,
and that we seek to be faithful to you:
We search your word to find our way.
Let us walk in your footsteps
so that our feet do not slip.

We call on you, O Creator of life
and you answer us.
Listen to our voice and show us
your loving kindness, O saviour of all who flee evil.

Strengthen us in the struggle to do your will.
Let our reward be to see you face to face,
and come into your loving presence.

Short silence

Taizé CD Veni Sancte Spiritus

God has created me.
God is my Lord,
having dominion over me.

God is also my strength,
for I can wish to do nothing
good without God.

Through God I have living spirit.
Through God I have life and movement.
Through God I learn, I find my path.

If I call in truth, this God and
Lord directs my steps;
setting my feet to the rhythm of
his precepts.

I run like a deer that seeks its
spring. *Hildegard of Bingen*

Final blessing (All)

Ever-loving God,
may we, the people of the bread,
live for a world in which no one hungers;
may we, the people of the vine
live for a world in which no one is excluded;
and may all who have shared in
the body and blood of your Son
love our brothers and sisters
rejoicing to know that you loved us first.

Christian Aid)

Short Silence

Loving God, All your creation calls you blessed.
In love you have formed a universe, so diverse yet so related.
and into its web you call us forth
to walk the land and swim the sea
with all our natural brothers and sisters.
To the stars we seem no more than blades of grass.
Yet to you, each of us, as each blade of grass and each star,
is an irreplaceable treasure, an essential companion
on this journey of love.

228 **Christ has no body now on earth**

Christ has no body now on earth
but yours,
no hands but yours
no feet but yours;
yours are the eyes through
which to look out Christ's
compassion to the world,
yours are the feet
with which he is to go about doing good,
and yours are the hands with
which he is to bless us now.

St Teresa of Avila

The love of God

The Grace of our Lord

Jesus Christ

the fellowship of the

Holy Spirit

be with us all

now & forever

Are there volunteers for case-studies/stories covering some of the other topics ?

working together agreement

- * we respect each person's right to confidentiality
- * we understand there is no such thing as a silly question or a silly answer
- * we exercise our listening skills through the ministry of ears, rather than the gift of tongues
- * when expressing opinions we try to use 'I' statements, unless speaking on behalf of a group/organisation
- * we offer each other constructive feedback, challenging statements rather than persons
- * we respect each other as God's great works of art

Food blessing

May the loving Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit come among us and bless this food we are about to eat in friendship with one another. May Christmas peace suffuse our deliberations and show forth our patterning of the loving mutuality of the Trinity.

Sing "Shalom my friends shalom my friends, shalom, shalom
The peace of Christ I give you today, shalom, shalom

Food blessing

May the loving Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit come among us and bless this food we are about to eat in friendship with one another. May Christmas peace suffuse our deliberations and show forth our patterning of the loving mutuality of the Trinity.

Sing "Shalom my friends shalom my friends, shalom, shalom
The peace of Christ I give you today, shalom, shalom

MORNING PRAYER

- L. God, our sustainer, come to our aid.
 All God, our beloved, make haste to help us.
 Glory be to the most Holy Trinity,
 God unbegotten,
 God incarnate,
 God among us,
 Who was and is and ever shall be. Amen.

Hymn

- All This day God gives me
 Strength of high heaven,
 Sun and moon shining,
 Flame in my hearth,
 Flashing of lightning,
 Wind in its swiftness,
 Deep of the ocean,
 Firmness of earth.

(tune: Morning is broken)

This day God sends me
 Strength to direct me,
 Might to uphold me,
 Wisdom as guide.
 Your eyes are watchful,
 Your ears are listening,
 Your lips are speaking,
 Friend at my side.

God's way is my way,
 God's shield is round me,
 God's host defends me,
 Saving from ill.
 Angels of heaven
 Drive from me always
 All that would harm me,
 Stand by me still.

Rising, I thank you,
 Mighty and strong one,
 God of creation,
 Giver of rest,
 Firmly confessing
 Threeness of persons,
 Oneness of Godhead,
 Trinity blest.

Ant. 1

- All Let anyone who is thirsty come and drink the water of life, a free gift for those who desire it.

Psalm 62

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
 for you my soul is thirsting.
2. My body pines for you
 like a dry, weary land without water.

All

As the rain and the snow come down
from heaven
and do not return there until they have
watered the earth,
making it blossom and bear fruit,
and give seed for sowing and bread to eat,
so shall the word which comes
from my mouth prevail;
it shall not return to me fruitless
without accomplishing my purpose
or succeeding in the task I gave it.
Isaiah 55: 10-11

A.

God of power,
God of people,
You are the life of all
that lives,
energy
that fills the earth,
vitality
that brings to birth,
the impetus
toward making whole
whatever is bruised
or broken.

B

In You we grow
to know the truth
that sets all creation free.
You are the song

the whole earth sings,
the promise
liberation brings,
now and forever.

Miriam Therese Winter¹⁴

(using oil from the holyland, anoint the person to the right of you, saying "May this oil
strengthen you in going out to bring fruitfulness in all you do

A.

Blessed be God for the faithfulness of Mary,
who returned to the garden on the first
Easter morning,
to seek her beloved in the tomb,
who heard her name uttered by the risen
Christ,
and found her life, her joy, her self, restored.

B.

In her naming we hear our own names called.
In her healing we know our own wounds
healed.

In her rejoicing we enter into the freedom
and joy of the redeemed.

All

Make us faithful like Mary,
when faith is called forth
on the dawn of Easter morning,
Until we come at last
to share in the full glory
of Resurrection Day.

Sing Shalom.

E

EVENING PRAYER Friday 27th OCTOBER.

Opening prayer:

Be with us, Spirit of the Lord, as we assemble in your name.
Teach us what we should do.
Walk with us along the path of justice, love and humility.

Be the source of our inspiration and the author of our decisions.
Join us, so that we may be one in You
and never depart in any way from the truth.

Gathered together in your name, may we deepen our appreciation of your call.

AMEN.

Reading: *Come Lord (Dom Helder Camara)*

Hymn: *Be still for the presence of the Lord.*

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come bow before Him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still for the presence of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him.
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place

Closing prayer:

May the Lord bless us in our searching and our questions.
They are the way to wisdom, enlightenment and peace. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our reflections and our ideas.
No matter the doubts, they are the seeds seeking nourishment,
sunshine and life giving water. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our vision.
No meter the climb, it is a mountain peak calling us to experience God.
AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our decisions.
No matter the mistakes, they are our Yes in life,
Our assent to the field where God is found. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in all our ways this night and evermore.
AMEN

Evening Prayers – Feast of St Mary Magdalene

Who was Mary Magdalene?

Blessed be God for the faithfulness of Mary,
who went out from the garden
to do her beloved's bidding,
who joyfully proclaimed his resurrection
to those to whom he sent her,
and risked her self in bold believing.

In her proclamation we find courage to speak
out.

In her acclamation we gain strength to share
our stories.

In her vindication we know the recognition
of our redeemed and vindicated lives.

Make us faithful like Mary,
when faith is sent out
into the noon of Easter morning.

Until we come at last
to share in the full glory
of Resurrection Day.

Nicola Slee⁴⁵

Song

'A Woman in her Grief'

(In Praise of All Encircling Love, Vol. 1)

1.

A woman in her grief
Within a garden cried
Lost in a sense of deep bereave-
ment,
For the man she loved had died.

2.

She wandered through the paths
To search out where he lay,
In devotion, bringing spices
Her great debt to him to pay.

3.

A man in working clothes
Was also in that place;
But her loss was overwhelming
And she did not know his face.

4.

He gently said one word,
He called her by her name,
It was just the sound she longed
for
And her heart was set aflame.

5.

She recognized her love
Who told her not to stay;
So she left her contemplation
For the world of everyday.

6.

At times, God you seem so close
But help us not to cling.
May such ecstasy be harnessed
For the world's transfiguring.

Beatitudes for Women



**Blessed is she who gives simply, loves deeply,
and walks joyfully in life,
for she has sincerity.**

**Blessed is she who lives intensely
and sing life's alleluias,
for she has awareness.**

**Blessed is she who speaks gently, lives humbly,
and chooses to give freely,
for she has dignity.**

**Blessed is she who listens and hears.
and extends her hands as a friend,
for she has understanding.**

**Blessed is she who suffers with the very young.
the very old and the lonely,
for she has compassion.**

**Blessed is she who greets the world with joy,
laughter and anticipation,
for she has courage.**

**Blessed is she who has sincerity, and awareness,
freedom and dignity,
understanding, compassion and courage,
for she is a woman, a gift, a blessing.**

*(Courtesy: Newark Archdiocesan
Council of Catholic Women)*

November 04, 1999 Copyright © by

United States Catholic Conference

Adapted for use at the **Hearing Women's
Voices** days Hallam Diocese – 2002

Artwork Copyright © Angela Harpham

2002

May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face
May the rains fall softly upon your fields
until we meet again
May God hold you in the hollow of her hand

W

HYMN TO WISDOM

My soul yearns for wisdom,
and beyond all else my heart longs for her.
She has walked through the depths of the abyss,
she has measured its boundaries;
for she was there from the beginning,
and apart from her, not one thing came to be.
She played before creation, when the world was made,
and in her hands are all things held together;
she has danced upon the face of the deep,
and all that has breath is instinct with her life.
The mystery of creation is in her grasp,
yet she delights to expound her ways.

In the streets of the city, wisdom is calling,
and on the access roads she encounters those who pass;
at the gates of the camp she sings in triumph,
and in the law courts she lifts up her voice.
With the timid and fearful she takes her stand,
and in the mouths of children she is heard to speak.
She cries out to the foolish to listen,
and the wise take heed to her words.
But among her own, she is not recognized,
and those who need her have thrust her out;
she has been pushed aside like the poor,
and broken like those of no account.

So she abandons those who are wise in their own sight,
but with all who are ready to receive her,
she makes her home.

For her delight is in the truth,
and she takes no pleasure in deceitful ways;
her integrity is more to be desired than comfort,
and her discernment is more precious than security.
In her alone is the life of humanity,
therefore while I live I will search her out;
for whoever is fed by wisdom will never hunger,
and all who drink from her will never thirst again.

This hymn was written as a reflection upon a meeting of the
Peace Preaching Course, on the theme 'And the Word was made
flesh', held in Oxford, July 1987.

It may be read antiphonally, each voice taking two lines alternately.

BE IN love with life
wrestle with the chaos and the pain
with yourself and with others
spirit echoing Spirit
trusting in the victory of the vulnerable;
glimpsing the peace,
the wholeness,
the spaciousness,
the justice,
and the joy
that comes from following the Pioneer
made perfect in suffering;
striving and yearning and crying out
from the very depths and heights
of the world's anguish and the world's bliss,
and so becoming friends and partners of God
in the divine creating.

JM

JC

THE LIVING God,
The living, moving Spirit of God
has called us together –
in witness, in celebration, in struggle.

Reach out toward each other
(We all stand and hold hands)
Our God reaches out toward us.

Let us worship God.
(Drop hands)

ER

3

1P Copy

Prayer for Durham 94

P

Tape-

Prayer - Durham 94

Centring music of Hildegard of Bingen

(Viridiissima Virga, celebrating the springing forth from the green branch of Mary the new life of Christ, at which all the earth was made joyful)

Prayer (from Iona)

Reader 1.

Be still my children
My voice is not always
heard in the thunder and earthquakes
of your experience.
I do not only speak when you are
physically and mentally involved in living.
Be still - and in the stillness I will speak
when you are quiet
when you are resting
when you are aware of me pulsating within
you and around you
when you are waiting and listening
I will break through
and enrich your silence
releasing my peace and glory
and transforming your experience
until in the stillness
you find yourself longing
to shout for joy.

For we are called to become
A perfect creation
No one's shadow
Should cloud our becoming,
No one's light
Should dispel our spark.

B. For the Lord delights in us
Jealously looks upon us
And encourages with gentle joy
Every movement of the Spirit
Within us.

A. Unique and loved we stand
Beautiful or stunted in our growth
But never without hope and life.

All: For we are called to become
A perfect creation.
This becoming may be
Gentle or harsh,
Subtle or violent,
But it never ceases,
Never pauses or hesitates,
Only is -
Creative force -
Calling us
Calling us to become
A perfect creation

Put yourself in a position of relaxation and think of the aspects of God's presence in creation that particularly appeals to you. After a couple of minutes, share your thoughts with the person next to you (in turns).

Poem by Edwina Gately (adapted) Sides A and B

A. We are called to become -
A perfect creation.
No one is called to become
who we individually are called to be.
It does not matter
How short or tall
Or thick-set or slow
We may be.

B. It does not matter
whether we sparkle with life
Or are silent as a still pool,
Whether we sing your song aloud
Or weep alone in darkness.

A. It does not matter
Whether we feel loved and admired
Or unloved and alone

INTERCESSIONS
(inc part) All

("you" has been replaced by "we" throughout)

The Lord's Prayer (One Possible New Translation from the Aramaic)

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,
Focus your light within us - make it useful:
Create your reign of unity now -
Your one desire then acts with ours,
as in all light, so in all forms.
Grant what we need each day in bread and insight
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
as we release the strands we hold
of others' guilt.
Don't let surface things delude us,
But free us from what holds us back.
From you is born all ruling will,
the power and the life to do,
the song that beautifies all,
from age to age it renews.
Truly - power to these statements -
may they be the ground from which all
my actions grow: Amen.

(From Prayers of the Cosmos
N. Douglas Klerz)

Divide into
Side A & B

CPW BGM weekend

Evening Prayer Friday 23rd November 2012

News Story #1

Torrential rain and high winds across much of the UK have resulted in widespread flooding, with more stormy weather predicted for the weekend.

A man died in floods in Chew Stoke near Bath on Thursday as downpours led to evacuations and road closures.

The Environment Agency has issued 71 flood warnings for England and Wales.

BBC forecasters predict prolonged spells of rainfall and gale force winds will batter many parts of the UK overnight on Saturday into Sunday.

We invite Intercessory Prayers for those travelling tonight or affected by the bad weather

News Story #2

UK Prime Minister David Cameron has said the EU budget deal being offered in Brussels "was not good enough", as the summit broke up without agreement.

Mr Cameron said "unaffordable spending" was being cut in its member countries and EU institutions had to start to live in the "real world".

He said that what had been suggested amounted to "tinkering" with spending.

"We put down a very clear marker," said the PM, adding that a deal was still "doable" but not "at any cost".

"This wasn't Britain as some sort of lone actor," he said, adding that other countries backed the UK view.

At a press conference after the summit ended Mr Cameron said: "All of these countries are net contributors to the EU. In other words, like Britain, they write the cheques.

"Together, we had a very clear message - 'We are not going to be tough on budgets at home just to come here and sign up to big increases in European spending'."

He added: "But we still believe a deal is absolutely do-able. Freezing budget is not an extreme position."

Leaders of the 27 EU member countries are expected to meet again early next year.

We invite Intercessory prayers for those at home and abroad who are suffering as a result of austerity measures.

News Story #3

The quality of services provided to people across the health and care sectors in England is beginning to suffer, according to the regulator.

The Care Quality Commission's (CQC) warning comes after it looked at data from more than 13,000 inspections.

The regulator said staff pressures and the rise in complex cases seen in the ageing population meant

everyone from hospitals to care homes was struggling.

Overall, one in four services failed at least one of the 16 key standards.

Among the most commonly failed areas were the standards relating to dignity and respect, nutrition, care and welfare and the workforce, which covers both numbers and skills of staff.

The regulator said the pressures on the system meant staff were increasingly unable to focus on the individual needs of people for whom they were caring.

Instead, they were essentially running through to-do lists in the way they approached their responsibilities.

We invite Intercessory prayers for the sick and those who care for them

Today's Gospel Reading Luke 19:45-48

original Spanish text by St Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

Nada te turbe,
nada te espante,
todo se pasa;
Dios no se muda.
La paciencia
todo lo alcanza;
Quien a Dios tiene,
nada le falta;
Solo Dios basta.

rough translation made by the composer

Let nothing disturb you,
nothing surprise you,
all things pass;
God does not change.
Patience wins everything;
whoever holds onto God
lacks nothing;
God alone is enough.

Taize version

**Nada te turbe
Nada te espanta
Quien a Dios tiene
Nada le falta**

**Nada te turbe
Nada te falta
Solo Dios basta**

CLOSING PRAYER

(Begin with silence and quiet music.)

C
(taken from
More Than Words)

(The following prayer is taken from More Than Words by Janet Schaffran, CDP and Pat Kozak, CSJ)

LEADER: In the name of our God who shares divinity with us,
In the name of our God who shares humanity with us,
In the name of our God who unsettles and inspires us,
let us give praise and thanks!

ALL: Amen.

LEADER: Come to our aid, Compassionate One.

ALL: We have need of your mercy.

LEADER: Listen to us now as we pray.

ALL: Open our eyes to your works,
and our ears to your words of life.

LEADER: In the presence of a God whose word
has called the stars into being,

ALL: We stand in awe.

LEADER: In the presence of a God whose arms have held children,
whose eyes have sparkled with laughter,

ALL: We stand in trust.

LEADER: In the presence of a God whose breath
has stirred within us and caused our hearts
to thirst for love,

ALL: We stand in need.

LEADER: Before you, Giver of Life, we come in faith,
in search of love and truth and wholeness.

ALL: Be with us; hear us, we pray.

ALL: Loving Creator,
we ask for wholeness for ourselves and for your church.
Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride
to limit the action of your Spirit,
nor allow mere custom to prevent
the divine creativity within us from bearing fruit.
This we ask through Jesus Christ. Amen.

GESTURE OF PEACE

BLESSING

May the blessing of God who brings us to birth,
of Jesus who embraces us in the fullness of our humanity,
and of the Spirit who both comforts and challenges,
encircle us and remain with us always.

Amen.

E.

EVENING PRAYER Friday 27th OCTOBER.

Opening prayer:

Be with us, Spirit of the Lord, as we assemble in your name.
Teach us what we should do.
Walk with us along the path of justice, love and humility.

Be the source of our inspiration and the author of our decisions.
Join us, so that we may be one in You
and never depart in any way from the truth.

Gathered together in your name, may we deepen our appreciation of your call.

AMEN.

Reading: *Come Lord (Dom Helder Camara)*

Hymn: *Be still for the presence of the Lord.*

Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.
Come bow before Him now, with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light!
Be still for the presence of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister His grace.
No work too hard for Him, in faith receive from Him.
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place

Closing prayer:

May the Lord bless us in our searching and our questions.
They are the way to wisdom, enlightenment and peace. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our reflections and our ideas.
No matter the doubts, they are the seeds seeking nourishment,
sunshine and life giving water. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our vision.
No matter the climb, it is a mountain peak calling us to experience God.
AMEN

May the Lord bless us in our decisions.
No matter the mistakes, they are our Yes in life,
Our assent to the field where God is found. AMEN

May the Lord bless us in all our ways this night and evermore.
AMEN

H 98/V

H

Evening prayer with Hildegard of Bingen.

Taped song by Hildegard. O Viridissima Virga

O viridissima virga ova,
que in ventoso fletu scissillationis
sanctorum produit.

Cum venit tempus
quod tu floruit in ramis tuis;
eva, eva sit tibi,
quia color solis in te eodevit
sicut odor balsami.

Nam in te floruit pulcher flos
qui odorem dedit omnibus aromatibus
que ordo erunt.

Et ille operaverunt omnia
in viriditate plena.

Unde celli dederunt rorem super gramen
et omnis terra letis facta est.
quoniam viscera ipsius
frumentum protulerunt,
et quoniam volucres celli
nidus in ipsa habuerunt.

Deinde facta est esca hominibus,
et gaudium magnum epulantiis;
unde, o suave virgo,
in te non deficit ullum gaudium.

Hec omnia Eva contempsit.

Nunc autem laus sit altissimi.

Hail, o greenest branch,
sprung forth in the airy breezes
of the prayers of the saints.

So the time has come
that your sprays have flourished;
hail, hail to you,
because the heat of the sun has exuded from you
like the aroma of balm.

For the beautiful flower sprung from you
which gave all perched perfumes their aroma.

And they have radiated anew
in their full freshness.

Whence the skies bestowed dew upon the pasture,
and all the Earth was made joyful
because her womb
brought forth corn,
and because the birds of the firmament
built their nests in her.

Then there was harvest ready for man
and a great rejoicing of banqueters,
whence, o sweet Virgo,
no joy is lacking in you.

Eva rejected all these things.

Now let there be praise to the Highest.

Reader A

I, the fiery life of divine wisdom,
I ignite the beauty of the plains,
I sparkle the waters,
I burn in the sun,
and the moon,
and the stars.

With wisdom I order ALL rightly.

Above ALL I determine truth.

Reader B

Without the WORD of God
no creature has being.

God's WORD is in all creation,
visible and invisible.

The WORD
is living,
being,
spirit,
all verdant greening,
all creativity.

All creation
is awakened,
called,
by the resounding melody,
God's invocation of the WORD.

This WORD manifests in every creature.

Now this is how the spirit is in the
flesh — the WORD is indivisible from GOD.

Music

- C humankind
full of all creative possibilities,
is God's work.
- D Humankind alone,
is called to assist God.
Humankind is called to co-create.
- E With nature's help,
humankind can set into creation
all that is necessary and life sustaining.
- D God's majesty is glorified
in the manifestation of every manner
of nature's fruitfulness.
- C This is possible,
possible through the right and holy
utilization of the earth,
the earth in which humankind has its
source.
- D The sum total of heaven and earth,
everything in nature,
is thus won to use and purpose.
It becomes a temple and altar
for the service of God.

Hymn
Tune
(Picardy or
Tantum Ergo)

1. Hildegard of faith unbending,
Feather on the breath of God,
World of substance all transcending,
Treading paths as yet untrod,
You, a woman's silence sharing
Understand our/their present lot.
2. Lonely woman, silence keeping
Till the time to speak came near,
Then the praise of God unceasing
From your lips the world could hear,
Till a clash with human powers
Not sure of your vision clear.
3. May discernment bring us wisdom.
In compassion may we love.
Deep in joy may we find laughter.
May our trust be just enough
So that praising we may enter
Shining courts in heav'n above.

EVENING PRAYER

Listen to the voice of the Beloved:

"Come then, my love,
My lovely one, come.
For see, the winter is past,
The rains are over and gone,
The flowers appear on the earth;
The season of glad songs has come."

Our beloved gives us everything we need:

For air to breathe,
All: WE THANK YOU LORD.

For water to drink,
All: WE THANK YOU LORD.

For food to eat,
All: WE THANK YOU LORD.

For shelter from the elements when they are over-enthusiastic,
All: WE THANK YOU LORD.

"The cooing of the turtledove is heard in our land"
and there is an abundance for celebrating the love between us, for
"The fig tree is forming its first figs
and the blossoming vines give out their fragrance."

The season of glad songs has indeed come:-

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
alleluia, alleluia.

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia.

The flowers and fruits that in thee grow
let them God's glory also show,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia.
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1.

EVENING LITURGY

INVOCATION (During which the chant Come, Holy Spirit, may be sung,
or the first line said.)

CHANT : (repeated after cantor)

Come, Holy Spirit.
Come, Holy Spirit.
Maranatha!
Come, Lord, come.

Leader : Breath of God,
Breath of life,
Breath of deepest yearning,

ALL Come, Holy Spirit.

Leader : Comforter,
Disturber,
Interpreter,
Enthusiast,

ALL Come, Holy Spirit

Leader : Heavenly Friend,
Lamplighter,
Revealer of Truth,
Midwife of Change,

ALL Come Holy Spirit

Leader : The Lord is here.

ALL : GOD'S SPIRIT IS WITH US.

Song or Hymn (sung seated) *Enemy of Apathy*

Prayer of Approach.

Leader : Let us pray.

Lord, teach us the silence of humility,
ALL : THE SILENCE OF WISDOM,
Leader : the silence of love,
ALL : THE SILENCE THAT SPEAKS WITHOUT WORDS,
Leader : the silence of faith.

Lord, teach us to silence our own hearts and minds
that we may listen to the movement of your
Holy Spirit,
and feel your presence in the depths of our being.

Silence

THE MAGNIFICAT

.....rather than hear this sung by a Cathedral choir.
 we will watch it being enacted, and associate ourselves
 with the drama by singing a KYRIE when God displaces
 the presumptuous and an ALLELUIA (from South Africa)
 when God favours the forgotten.

PRAYERS

(during which there will be silence for personal
 reflection, followed by the singing of **Listen, Lord**)

There is a time for every purpose under heaven.

A time for gratitude.

(silence followed by **Listen, Lord; listen, Lord**
 not to our words but to our prayer.
 You alone, you alone
 understand and care.)

A time for laying down what we should not be carrying.

(silence etc)

A time for acknowledging the one thing to which, before
 all else, we must attend.

(silence etc)

A time for remembering those people for whom we should
 pray before today ends.

(silence etc)

A time for asking God for clarity on whatever issue
 troubles or fascinates us.

(silence etc)

A time for loving the self we might otherwise avoid.

(silence etc)

You kindly offer, Lord,
 to understand the groaning of our spirits
 as well as our practised words.

We believe that you have given us a hearing,
 and own our responsibility in all that you have heard.

Help us now to know your will
 and the solidarity of your Holy Spirit
 who answers prayer.

AMEN,

PSALM 134 (ALL STANDING)

- Solo 1. Come all you servants of the Lord
and bless with me God's holy name;
let worshippers by day and night
God's worth and majesty proclaim.
- ALL 2. Lift up your hands, lift up your hearts
to praise God in his holy place;
and may the Lord of earth and heaven
bless you and keep you in his grace.
- CANON 3. Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God all creatures here below;
praise God, the Trinity of love,
before, beneath, around, above.

CLOSING RESPONSES

- Leader : I will lie down this night
in the sight of God my Maker.
- ALL : MAY GOD AND CHRIST AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,
AND THE ANGELS CHARGED WITH MY CARE,
SURROUND ME, WAKING OR SLEEPING,
AND BRING ME TO THE MORNING
BLESSED BY THE COMPANY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF HEAVEN.
AMEN.

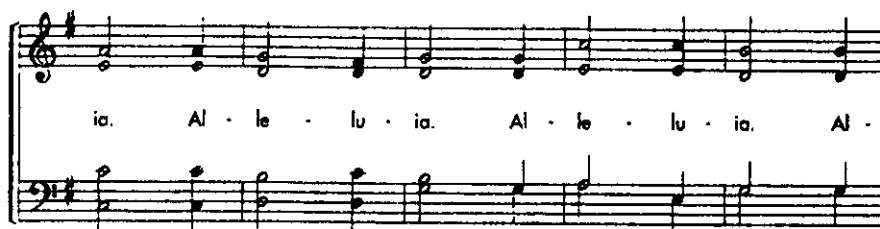
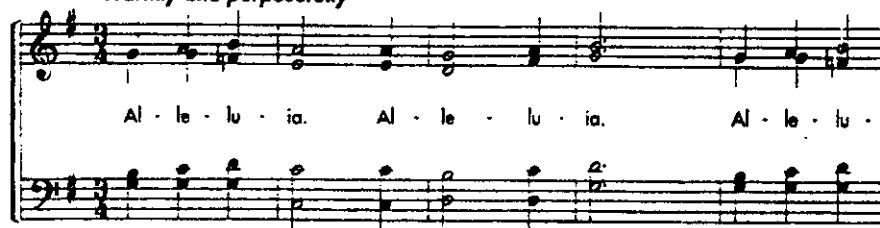
ENEMY OF APATHY

- (Solo) 1. She sits like a bird, brooding on the water,
hovering on the chaos of the world's first day;
she sighs as she sings, mothering creation,
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.
- (all) 2. She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,
lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;
she nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,
nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.
3. She dances in fire, startling her spectators,
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;
she weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,
nor can she be silenced, captured or restrained.
4. For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,
gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;
she is the key opening the scriptures,
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

(In Aramaic and Hebrew, the languages Jesus spoke, the Spirit was referred to in the feminine)

ALLELUIA

SOUTH AFRICA

Warmly and purposefully

From the Iona Collection *Sent by the Lord*

Evening Prayer Friendship with God and neighbour.

Version of psalm 17. (antiphonally A and B)

- A Loving Creator, hear our prayer and listen to our call made in the spirit of truth.
- B You know what we are, and that we seek to be faithful to you; we search your word to find our way. Let us walk in your footsteps so that our feet do not slip.
- A We call on you, O Creator of life and you answer us.
Listen to our voice and show us your loving kindness.
- All Strengthen us in the struggle to do your will.
Let our reward be to see you face to face,
and come into your loving presence.

Readings

Wisdom 7.27 The work of Sophia (wisdom)

John 15: 13-15 greater love

Pause

Thoughts from Rediscovering Friendship (Elizabeth Moltmann Wendell)

She points out that God as friend is an old biblical concept, that is largely ignored by the institutional churches through emphasis on the transcendent rather than the immanent God. But the image of God for us and with us is of great importance in coping with life in all its complexities. She writes that in friendship there is intimacy, trust and closeness, but also detachment and respect for the otherness of others". Her thinking leads us on to understanding Jesus' friendship with the marginalised and disreputable is something we should be caught up in with the active compassion of the preferential option for the poor. Here I think is relevant the Joan Baez song "There but for fortune go I" which I am going to play for you on a CD.

(CD track 10 Joan Baez *The best of Vanguard Years*)

Pause

Final Blessing (All)

May God bless us and keep us
May God's face shine upon us
and give us peace
And the blessing of God the Creator,
Redeemer and life giving Spirit
Be with us, now and for ever, Amen

All God our creator,
You have given all peoples one common origin,
and your will is to gather us all as one family in yourself.
Fill our hearts with the fire of your love
And the desire to ensure justice for all our sisters and brothers.
By sharing the good things you give to us may we secure
justice and equality for every human being, an end to division,
and a human society built on love and peace.
We ask this through Christ, our Redeemer.

Reader short Extract from Joan Chittister OSB from "the Heart of Flesh"

What the world needs are more circles and fewer pyramids. Circles are strange and wonderful things. No one knows where a circle either begins or ends. No one can tell what is its most accomplished part. There is no up to go to in a circle, no steps to climb to arrive there, no top to get to, no crowning point upon which to plant a flag or stake a claim or build a throne. In a circle there is only eye-to-eye conversation, only shoulder-to-shoulder contact, only community to aspire to rather than hierarchy.

Ladders and pyramids assume a society of serfs, of peasants, of lackeys and underlings, of in-groups and out-groups, of higher and lower classes. Circles, on the other hand, assume a society of equals. It isn't that circles are disorderly or chaotic; it's just that they depend more on consensus than they do on control. It isn't that circles have no room for leaders, it's just that they have no respect for despots, no matter how benign. It isn't that circles lack power; it's simply that circles distribute power and pyramids amass it at the top.

Pause

Final Prayer All

God our reconciler, who in the person of the Spirit,
Beckons us into the paths of peace
And inspires our longing to become more Christ-like;
Let your hand nudge us into the adventure
Of painting new visions, writing new words,
Building new structures and carving new landmarks
To meet the challenges of our time.

(Kate Compston)

FP 2 readers

Evening Prayer Friendship with God and neighbour.

Version of psalm 17. (antiphonally A and B)

- A Loving Creator, hear our prayer and listen to our call made in the spirit of truth.
- B You know what we are, and that we seek to be faithful to you; we search your word to find our way. Let us walk in your footsteps so that our feet do not slip.
- A We call on you, O Creator of life and you answer us.
Listen to our voice and show us your loving kindness.
- All Strengthen us in the struggle to do your will.
Let our reward be to see you face to face,
and come into your loving presence.

Readings\

Wisdom 7.27 The work of Sophia (wisdom)

John 15: 13-15 greater love

Pause

Thoughts from Rediscovering Friendship (Elizabeth Moltmann Wendell)
She points out that God as friend is an old biblical concept, that is largely ignored by the institutional churches through emphasis on the transcendent rather than the immanent God. But the image of God for us and with us is of great importance in coping with life in all its complexities. She writes that in friendship there is intimacy, trust and closeness, but also detachment and respect for the otherness of others". Her thinking leads us on to understanding Jesus' friendship with the marginalised and disreputable is something we should be caught up in with the active compassion of the preferential option for the poor. Here I think is relevant the Joan Baez song "There but for fortune go I" which I am going to play for you on a CD.

an Alex
(CD track 10 Joan Baez The best of Vanguard Years)

Pause

Final Blessing (All)

May God bless us and keep us
May God's face shine upon us
and give us peace
And the blessing of God the Creator,
Redeemer and life giving Spirit
Be with us, now and for ever, Amen

Scripture readings for friendship E prayer

Reader A. Wisdom 7.27

...she can do all things,
and while remaining in herself, she renews all things:
In every generation she passes into holy souls
And makes them friends of God and prophets..

Reader B. John 15: 13-15

There is no greater love than to lie down one's life for one's friends and you re
my friends if you do what I command you.
I no longer speak of you as subordinates,
Because a subordinate doesn't know a superior's business.
Instead I call you friends,
Because I have made known to you
everything I have learned from Abba God.

BEWARE!

*Here we practise the inclusive Gospel of
Jesus Christ.*

*This means you may be mixing with
tax-collectors, sinners, adulterers,
hypocrites, Greeks, Jews,
women as well as men, homosexuals,
lesbians, the disabled, dying thieves
and other sinners;
even black people, Asians and
other ethnic minorities,
Muslims, Bishops, bigots,
peoples of other faiths,
strangers from Rome and Nigeria ,
heretics, etc, etc –
even you, dear guest are most welcome*

*in fact anyone like those who Jesus mixed
with*

So beware, this is not a private club.

WELCOME TO ALL!

Paul Jenkins, Director,
St Columba's House, Woking

BEWARE!

*Here we practise the inclusive Gospel of
Jesus Christ.*

*This means you may be mixing with
tax-collectors, sinners, adulterers,
hypocrites, Greeks, Jews,
women as well as men, homosexuals,
lesbians, the disabled, dying thieves
and other sinners;
even black people, Asians and
other ethnic minorities,
Muslims, Bishops, bigots,
peoples of other faiths,
strangers from Rome and Nigeria ,
heretics, etc, etc –
even you, dear guest are most welcome
in fact anyone like those who Jesus mixed
with
So beware, this is not a private club.*

WELCOME TO ALL!

Paul Jenkins, Director,
St Columba's House, Woking