

Evening Prayer: 2nd August 2020

Welcome and Introduction

Opening Responses

Come, brother Jesus, be our guest,
Stay with us for day is ending.

Bring to this place your poverty,
For then we shall be rich.
Bring to this place your pain,
That in sharing it, we may also share your joy.
Bring to this place your understanding of us,
That we may be freed to learn more of you.
Bring to this place your Holy Spirit,
That we and all things might be made new.
Be among us this night,
For the doors of our hearts we leave ajar.

Song: Christ be in my waking

**Christ be in my waking,
as the sun is rising,
in my day of working,
with me every hour.
Christ be in my resting,
as the day is ending,
calming and refreshing,
watching through the night.**

**Christ be in my thinking,
and my understanding,
guarding me from evil,
walking in the light.
Christ be in my speaking,
every word a blessing,
pure and not deceiving,
grace to all who hear.**

***Jesus, this is my devotion,
all my life to know you,
every day to walk with you.
Saviour, you're my deepest longing,
you're the one I live for,
teach me Lord, to walk with you.***

**Christ be in my gladness for the joy of living,
thankful for the goodness of the Father's hand.**

**Christ be in my sorrow,
and my day of darkness,
knowing that I follow in the steps he trod.**

**Christ when hope has faded,
nothing left to cling to,
every pleasure jaded,
every well is dry.
Christ the loving shepherd
draws me with his kindness,
leads me from the desert to the streams of life.**

*Stuart Townend (born 1963) and Simon Brading
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Prayer of confession and restoration

Eternal maker of the endless heavens,
Lowly Christ, befriender of the changing earth,
Holy Spirit, wind over the flowing waters,
In earth, sea and sky
You are ever present.

**Oh hidden mystery,
Sun behind all suns,
Soul within all souls,
In everything we touch,
In everyone we meet
You are there,
And we give you thanks.**

But where we have not touched but trampled
you in creation,
Where we have not honoured but avoided you
in one another,
Where we have not received but rejected your
goodness,
Forgive us and hear our plea for your pardon.

Holy God,
Holy and mighty
Holy and Immortal,
Have mercy on us.

Know that God is good.
God forgives what is past
And enables us to begin again.

So let us live
As those who treasure God's costly generosity,
By safeguarding God's earth,
Delighting in its people,
And loving our Maker
To whom be glory for every.
Thanks be to God.
Amen

Scripture

Listen now in the reading of Scripture for the Word and Wisdom of God.

(The reading which may be followed by a reflection)

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Night Prayer

What if the darkness covers us and the day around us turns to night?
Darkness is not too dark for God to whom dark and light are one.

Let us pray....

You never sleep, God.
You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its people to turn in the right direction.

So tonight, will you comfort those who cannot sleep because of illness....
Or worry....
Or fear...
Or for reasons they cannot understand.
(Silence)

God be near them.
God be near them.

And tonight will you be close to those who wait patiently or impatiently...
For a birth...
Or a death...
Or a visit...
Or for the pieces of their life's jigsaw to fit together.
(Silence)

God be near them.
God be near them.

And tonight, will you be close to those who wonder,
Who look for inspiration,
Who long to be with those they love,
Who hope to recognise the right time
When they can say, 'I am sorry,' or 'I love you.'
Or even, 'Enough is enough.'
(Silence)

God be near them.
God be near them.

And God, listen to us
As we share with you
Whatever joys or sorrows,
Discoveries or questions
We will take with us into this night.
(Silence)

God be near us.
God be near us.

Into your hands we commit ourselves-
Our souls, our bodies, our minds, our futures-
For all things come from you
And are best kept in your care.
Amen

Closing Responses

For the day now done.
Thanks be to God.
For the rest before us
Thanks be to God.
Because God never sleeps
So that we can,
Thanks be to God.
But before the day is done,
Let God's name be praised;
And let God's people say Amen.
Amen

Acknowledgements

*Material adapted from:
Iona Abbey Worship Book,*