

Celtic Evening Prayer 3 March 2021

Opening Prayer

Who is it that you seek? We seek the Lord our God.

Do you seek him with all your heart? Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek him with all your soul? Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek him with all your mind? Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek him with all your strength? Amen. Christ, have mercy.

Lament

Jesus, you were driven to the sands by the searching Spirit. Strip from us what is not of you.

Forgive us our selfish deeds, our empty speech and the words with which we have wounded.

Forgive us our false desires, our vengeful attitudes and for what we have left untended.

Holy Jesus, hanged on a tree, victorious over death, forgive us these sins, free us from these evils and power us into new ways.

Readings

Who rises up for me against the wicked? Who stands up for me against evildoers? If the LORD had not been my help, my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence. When I thought, 'My foot is slipping', your steadfast love, O LORD, held me up. When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.

Can wicked rulers be allied with you, those who contrive mischief by statute? (Ps 94: 16-20)

Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' (Genesis 12: 1-3)

Meditation

Father, I abandon myself into your hands. Do with me what you will, whatever you do, I will thank you, I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only

your will be done in me, as in all your creatures, and I'll ask nothing else, Lord.

Into your hands I commend my spirit; I give it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands with a trust beyond all measure, because you are my Father.

I am no longer my own, but Thine, put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for Thee or laid aside for Thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to Thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Thou art mine, and I am Thine. So be it. And this covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

Canticle

In the shadow of Your wings I will sing your praises O Lord.

The Lord is my light, my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the refuge of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?

In the shadow of Your wings I will sing your praises O Lord.

One thing I ask of the Lord, one thing I seek; to dwell in the presence of my God, to gaze on Your holy place.

In the shadow of Your wings I will sing your praises O Lord.

I believe I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. O wait for the Lord! Have courage and wait, wait for the Lord.

In the shadow of Your wings I will sing your praises O Lord.

Blessing

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.