

Celtic Evening Prayer

You are very welcome

Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Psalm 139:12

Welcome to this service of Celtic Evening Prayer

Please feel at home in God's house, as we draw closer to the Holy One who created day and night and saw that they were good.

The service usually lasts around 30 minutes and includes time for quiet, prayer, and song,

The Gathering

The lord is our light and salvation
All: In him we find our refuge and our peace

We stand to sing

Hymn: 800– *The Lord's my shepherd I'll not want.*

Silence is kept.

We are met in the presence of God
All **And we do not meet alone**

A candle is lit.

With the angels in highest heaven
All **We gather to worship the Lord**

With the saints of every age:
All **We gather to worship the Lord**

With the Church throughout the world:
All **We gather to worship the Lord**

We are met in the presence of God
All **And we do not meet alone.**

Prayers of Penitence

O God, for your love for us, which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes to birth and to the wonder and beauty of creation.

All **We give you thanks**

For your love for us, wild and freeing, which has awakened us to the energy of creation: to the sap that flows, the blood that pulses, the heart that sings

All **We give you thanks**

For your love for us, compassionate and patient, which has carried us through our pain, wept beside us in our sin, and waited with us in our confusion.

All **We give you thanks**

For your love for us, strong and challenging, which has called us to take risks for you, asked for the best in us, and shown us how to serve.

All **We give you thanks**

O God we come to celebrate, that your Holy Spirit is present deep within us, and at the heart of all life, Forgive us when we forget your gift of love made known to us in Jesus, and draw us into your presence.
AMEN

We all sit

Hymn: 592 – *As the deer pants for the water.*

A time of quiet is kept for self-examination.

Friend of sinners, you bring hope in our despair:
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

All **Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Healer of the sick, you give strength to us in our weakness:
Christe, Christe eleison.

All **Christe, Christe eleison.**

Destroyer of evil, you bring life to our dying:
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

All **Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Absolution

The Lord enrich us with his grace,
and nourish us with his blessing;
the Lord defend us in trouble
and keep us from all evil;
the Lord accept our prayers,
+ and absolve us from our offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

Lord you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

All **Before the mountains were brought forth
or the earth and the world formed from
everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn us back to dust and say:
'Turn back O children of earth'.

All **For a thousand days in your sight
are but as yesterday
which passes like a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away like a dream
they fade away suddenly like the grass.

All **In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dry and withered.**

For we consume away in your displeasure
we are afraid at your watchful indignation.

All **You have set our misdeeds before you
and our secret sins in the light of your
countenance.**

So teach us to number our days
that we might apply our hearts to wisdom.
How sweet are your words on my tongue!
They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

And at the end:

All **Glory to God, Source of all being,
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever.
Amen.**

Mark 4:35-41

35 On that day, when evening had come, he said to them,
'Let us go across to the other side.' 36 And leaving the
crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as
he was. Other boats were with him. 37 A great gale arose,
and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was
already being swamped. 38 But he was in the stern, asleep
on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him,
'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' 39 He
woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace!
Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.
40 He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no
faith?' 41 And they were filled with great awe and said to
one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the
sea obey him?'

For the word of the Lord
All **thanks be to God**

The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.
My spirit sings to God, my saving God,
All **Who on this day above all others favoured me**
And raised me up, a light for all to see.
Through me great deeds will God make manifest,
And all the earth will come to call me blest.
All **Unbounded love and mercy sure will I proclaim**
For all who know and praise God's holy name.
God's mighty arm, protector of the just,
Will guard the weak and raise them from the dust.

All **But mighty kings will swiftly fall from thrones corrupt.**
The strong brought low, the lowly lifted up.
Soon will the poor and hungry of the earth
Be richly blest, be given greater worth.

All **And Israel, as once foretold to Abraham,**
Will live in peace throughout the promised land.

All **Glory to God, Source of all being,**
Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever.
Amen.

Reflection – Sue Goddard

The Prayers

A short time of quiet is kept.

The Collect

O Lord God, who never fails both to hear and to answer the prayer that is sincere. When our hands are lifted up in prayer keep our hearts not on the world, nor let our prayers end upon our lips, but may they go forth with power to work your will in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Hymn: *24 – The day thou gavest Lord is ended*

The Dismissal

Blessing

We say together:

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.
AMEN

Conclusion

From where we are to where you need us
All **Christ be beside us**
From what we are to what you can make us
All **Christ be before us.**
Through the streets of this world to the gates of heaven.
All **Christ be above us**

Surround us with your presence, inspire us with your purpose, confirm us in your love.

The candle is extinguished.

Thanks be to God.
All **Amen.**