



ST. PETER'S

— IN THE WOODS —

Celtic Morning Prayer



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

10:00 am

About Celtic Prayers

The Celts were a people and a culture. They seem to have been in central Europe as early as 800 B.C. By 275 B.C. Celtic influence had spread to what is now England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, France and Spain. After Europe was dominated by the Roman Empire, Ireland, Scotland and Wales retained the Celtic identity. Celtic revivals of cultural identity have come and gone in these countries.

Celtic poems and prayers express deep gratitude for the created world. The prayers move smoothly from thankfulness for the beauty of earth to praise for the God of glory. The Celts help to bring us back to the Biblical theme of thankfulness rather than petition. This can be helpful to us today. When we are told over and over that we don't have enough and that more is always better, we need to stop listening to those insistent voices and focus very simply on what God has already given us.



Silence

Opening Music

Jesus Calls Us

Opening Words

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Come to us this day, O God.
Come to us with light.

Speak to us this day, O God.
Speak to us your truth.

Dwell with us this day, O God,
Dwell with us in love.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Confession of sin

**Thanks to you, O God, that I have risen today,
to the rising of life itself;
may it be to your own glory,
O God of every gift,
and to the glory of my soul likewise.
O great God, aid my soul
with the aiding of your own mercy;
even as I clothe my body with wool,
cover my soul with the shadow of your wing.
Help me to avoid every sin,
and the source of every sin to forsake;
and as the mist scatters
on the crest of the hills,
may each ill haze clear from my soul, O God.**

Adapted from Carmina Gadelica.

Absolution

Come, Lord, come to us.

Enter our darkness with your light,

Fill our emptiness with your presence, Come refresh, restore, renew us.

In our sadness, come as joy,

In our troubles, come as peace,

In our fearfulness, come as hope,

In our darkness, come as light,

In our frailty, come as strength,

In our loneliness come as love, Come, refresh, restore, renew us.

May the God of love bring *us* back to himself,

forgive *us* our sins,

and assure *us* of his eternal love

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

(From David Adam and Common Worship)

Amen.

The Collect

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

(to be read responsively by whole verse)

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! whose hope is in the LORD their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

7 The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The LORD shall reign for ever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

James 2:1-10-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall

not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Hymn *Poor Folks Won't Always Be Forgotten*

The Gospel

Mark 7:24-3

A Reading from the Gospel or Mark

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection

Rev. Guimond Pierre Louis

Music for Meditation

God to Enfold You

A period of silence is observed.

Iona Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

As our Savior taught us, so we pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayers for Ourselves and Others

Officiant: We bring to the Lord our hopes and cares, saying, God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For God's people throughout the world, that we might do our part to give glory to God and to bring peace to the earth.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For those gathered here, that we will take the Good News of the living God into the world, not only with our lips, but in our lives.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For all who are in trouble, and for all those in any need or trouble, that the light of the Christ fill their hearts with hope.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For all who hold authority in the nations of the world. Remembering our President Joe, and our governor, Ralph.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For the sick and those who care for them, God will bless them this day with the gift of peace. Especially.....

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For those who are becoming aware of the miraculous joy and peace that God has placed within them, and within every human being, that the awareness of this gift might be strengthened and confirmed. We pray for those celebrating birthdays, especially.... And those celebrating anniversaries.....

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Leader: For the departed, grant them eternal rest in your presence.

The people may add their intercessions either silently or aloud.

God of Wonder,
Hear our prayers.

Officiant: Confident in God's love, we place our needs before Christ, whose dwelling is the human heart and whose glory is any person alive to his Presence. ***Amen.***

Music for Meditation

We Cannot Measure How You Heal

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

Blessing

**May the guiding hands of God be on my shoulders,
may the presence of the Holy Spirit be on my head,
may the sign of Christ be on my forehead,
may the voice of the Holy Spirit be in my ears,
may the smell of the Holy Spirit be in my nose,
may the sight of the company of heaven be in my eyes,
may the speech of the company of heaven be in my mouth,
may the work of the church of God be in my hands,
may the serving of God and my neighbor be in my feet,
may God make my heart his home,
and may I belong to God, my Father, completely.**

*Lorica of St. Fursa (Furse),
7th Century.*

Closing Hymn

The Summons

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Instrumental

September 5, 2021 Announcements & Events

Please go to weekly E-news for links and more information. If you do not receive the enews contact the office to be added to our mailing list.

You're Invited to join the SPW Choir! - Love to sing? Join the SPW Choir!!! Our choir season is kicking off with a *Brunch and Sing* on Saturday, September 11 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Bring yourself and a brunch item to share. All are welcome, we would love to have you! Questions? Email Jenni Dunn at spwmusicdirector@gmail.com

Come Help Us Harvest in the Garden of Hope! - On the morning of September 25th, 9-11:30, SPW hopes to send a team to St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Arlington to help harvest vegetables from their Garden of Hope. Harvesting vegetables is a fun, educational and family-friendly activity! If you are interested in serving on the harvesting team, please RSVP by 9/10/21 to Chris Camillo at chriscamillo@yahoo.com

Women's Fellowship Interest Meeting - Join Rev. Susan on Saturday September 18th, from 9 - 10 AM to explore a new offering for women. We're imagining an informal weekly? monthly? gathering for fellowship, fun and maybe a few prayers. Come and help us create what would be meaningful! On Sept. 18th we'll set up outside, weather permitting, with indoor spaces available (masks indoors please!) Let revsusanh@gmail.com know that you are coming! Interested but can't make it that day? Please give Rev. Susan your feedback as well!

New Program Year Celebration – After the 10 AM outdoor service on September 12th we will be hosting The Roaming Coyote and The Kona Ice Trucks for our Welcome Back Sunday. 8 AM Service will be indoor, livestreamed and recorded.

Our Continued prayers for Afghanistan and Haiti – Episcopal Relief and Development and Episcopal Migration Ministries are accepting donations to fund their relief efforts in these areas.

Weekly Prayer in Community – Tuesday Morning at 9 AM for 12 minutes. It is an amazing ministry. Come check it out. It is very easy to join. Contact the office for more information. Dial: 971-224-6601 Access Code: 662648

IF you have a prayer request – contact the office, Rev. Susan or submit on the website form. *Prayer intentions remain on the prayer list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.*

Office hours – M- F 7:30-3:30

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