

Celtic Evening Prayer for the Easter Season



Sundays at 5pm

on Zoom

PREPARATION

We meet in the name of God the Trinity, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING RESPONSES

Spirit of the Risen Christ,
as the lamps light up the evening,
shine into our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world;
a light that no darkness can quench.

We light a candle to remind us of the presence of God

EASTER HOPE IN CHRIST

A long reign of sin has ended.
A new age has dawned.
A broken world is being renewed.
And we are once again made whole.

Alleluia!

Risen Christ, you turned Mary's tears into joy;
turn our tears too into joy.

Risen Christ, you turned the travellers' despair into hope;
turn our despair too into hope.

Risen Christ, you turned the disciples fears into boldness;
turn our fears too into boldness.

Risen Christ, you turned an empty catch into fullness;
turn our empty chores too into fullness.

Risen Christ, you turned Thomas' unbelief into trust;
turn our unbelief too into trust.

Risen Christ, scatter the darkness of our unbelief
and shine among us always.

Amen

PRAYERS OF REPENTANCE

Christ Jesus, in the light of your risen presence,
and in union with your first frail apostles, we say sorry:

**for not weighing your words,
for not sharing your trials,
for not believing your promises.**

Jesus, forgive my sins.

Forgive the sins that I can remember,
and also the sins I have forgotten.

Forgive the wrong actions I have committed,
and the right actions I have omitted.

Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation,
and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.

Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements,
and those when I have failed to boast of your works.

Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,
and the leniency I have shown to myself.

Forgive the lies I have told to others,
and the truths I have avoided.

Forgive me the pain I have caused others,
and the indulgence I have shown to myself.

Jesus have pity on me and make me whole.

May God forgive us, Christ renew us and the Spirit enable us to live
and grow in love.

Amen

PSALM 66 V1-7, 14-18

- 1 Be joyful in God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
sing the glory of his praise.
- 2 Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great strength
your enemies shall bow before you.**
- 3 'All the earth shall worship you,
sing to you, sing praise to your name.'
- 4 Come now and behold the works of God,
how wonderful he is in his dealings with humankind.**
- 5 He turned the sea into dry land;
the river they passed through on foot;
there we rejoiced in him.
- 6 In his might he rules for ever;
his eyes keep watch over the nations;
let no rebel rise up against him.**
- 7 Bless our God, O you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard,
- 14 Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.**
- 15 I called out to him with my mouth
and his praise was on my tongue.
- 16 If I had nursed evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me,**
- 17 But in truth God has heard me;
he has heeded the voice of my prayer.
- 18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his loving mercy from me.**

or

PSALM 118 V14-24

**14 The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.**

15 Joyful shouts of salvation
sound from the tents of the righteous:

**16 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;
the right hand of the Lord raises up;
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'**

17 I shall not die, but live
and declare the works of the Lord.

**18 The Lord has punished me sorely,
but he has not given me over to death.**

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

**20 This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**22 The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

23 This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

**24 This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it**

or the Psalm of the day

THE WORD OF GOD

O God, as these words are read,
In our hearts may we feel your presence.

Scripture is read - silence may be kept

Music for reflection

IONIAN CREED

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

**A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.**

**On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen**

Ionian Creed – Iona Abbey

PRAYERS

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Let us bring to mind and pray for those who need to be remembered tonight:

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

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Those who live in the broken and hurting places of this world, the places of conflict and unrest, disaster, poverty and hunger ...

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Those who have been brought to our attention through a meeting or conversation, a message or a sudden thought....

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Those who are in hospital, in care, in isolation or who are anxious, troubled or fearful....

Risen Christ

draw near this night

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

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Those who are seeking and searching for a God who believes in them and with whom they can find a home...

Risen Christ

draw near this night

Those whose names are on our hearts and who we should not forget to bring before God tonight....

Risen Christ

draw near this night

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

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

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

Amen.

CLOSING RESPONSES

We lie down in peace knowing our sins are forgiven;

We lie down in peace knowing death has no fear;

We lie down in peace knowing no powers can harm us;

We lie down in peace knowing angels are near.

Risen Christ of the scars, who spoke peace to your desolate disciples,

Speak peace this night to us and to desolate ones we love.

Risen Christ of the lakeside, who nourished and inspired the disciples,

Inspire us and our loved ones to rest this night in your arms.

BLESSING

Deep peace of the setting sun be yours;

Deep peace of the forgiving heart be yours;

Deep peace of the lakeside Christ

and God's blessing

be yours, tonight and forever

Amen