

MORNING PRAYER E Week of 4.22.24

That All May Be One

My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together. -Desmond Tutu

When you recognize that everyone is part of you, you will find you cannot withdraw from another.
-Elsie Morgan

We are beckoned into new relationships with one another, and this beckoning is more than a command. It is gospel. The face of forgiveness, acceptance, and love can be reflected in the faces that we show to one another...We can defy the barriers to peace and understanding that arise when human beings are conditioned to regard other human beings as 'the enemy' or to think them less than fully human. -Douglas John Hall

OPENING

May God be among us throughout this day.
Amen.

May Christ be beside us throughout this day.
Amen.

May the Spirit be within us throughout this day.
Amen.

May we, as God's people, be one with each other,
one with the saints in heaven and on earth,
while living in harmony with the Blessed Three,
to whom be praise and glory forever.
Amen.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Each thing we have received,
from God it came.

Each thing we enjoy,
from God it comes.

Each thing we pray for,
from God it will be given.

God of life,
you are the source of all goodness, the
satisfaction of all our desires.

Our understanding of you is small;
increase it.

Our desire to do your will is weak;
enliven it.
The seed you have planted has yet to bear fruit;
ripen it.
But first, create in us clean hearts as, in your sight,
we unburden ourselves
of guilt,
of anger,
of fear,
of pride,
of hardness of heart,
of weakness of intention.

Pause...

Jesus, Son of Mary,
have mercy upon us.

Jesus, Savior of the World,
make peace within us.

Christ, Sovereign of Glory,
**be with us and for us
wherever life takes us.**

In the common path of our calling
whether it be easy or uneasy to tread,
whether it be bright or dark to follow, let
your perfect guidance protect us.

**Be a Shield
against all that might deceive us;
be a Healer
for all that might harm us;**

be a Witness
of all that might trouble us;
be a Reconciler
in all that might divide us,
this day and until we meet in glory.
Amen.

PSALM 19

The heavens proclaim the glory of God,
the sky displays God's artistry.
**One day communicates with another;
night shares its knowledge with night.**
This happens in absence of speech;
creation requires no language.
**God's purpose is shot through the earth;
God's wisdom
throughout the wide worlds.**
God placed in skies high above
a tent for the bright shining sun.
**It appears like a groom for his bride;
like a champion, it runs its full race.**
It rises and circles the earth;
Nothing may hide from its heat.
The Law of the Lord is perfect,
God's teaching revives the soul.
**God's instructions are steadfast and sure;
they aim to make simple folk wise.**
The guidance of God is good;
bringing joy to the humble in heart.
**The commandments of God are clear;
God's word is light to the eyes.**

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Give us, O God,
as a morning meal, your nourishment,
to benefit our bodies, our minds,
our souls, our belief.

Monday- Ephesians 4:1-16

Tuesday- 1 Peter 3:8-12

Wednesday- Galatians 3:23-29

Thursday- Philippians 2:1-11

Friday- 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

Let your Word live within us, faithful
God
Day by day, night by night,
in our thinking,
our speaking,
our doing, our believing.

...a silence is kept...

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

O great and generous God,
graciously set your eye this day
on those who know their need of
you through pain, through trouble,
through grief, through their own
fault.

Pause...

Nurse the weak,
**bandage the broken,
console the desolate,
forgive the penitent.**

O Christ who shared our flesh,
graciously set your eye this day
on those who have no need for you
**through pride,
through disappointment,
through doubt,
through the failure of false friends.**

Pause...

Soften the hardened heart,
**confront the arrogant will,
uncover hidden depths
and the truth that sets us free.**

O Holy Spirit, breath of God,
move among us this day.
**Open us to the beauty of the earth
so that we may become its servants.**
Open us to the wonder of life
that we may recognize an angel in every space.
**Open us to the movement of your grace
that our hatred will give way to love,
our resentment to forgiveness,
our division to unity,
all for Jesus' sake.**
Amen.

CLOSING

Now may God who brought us into the joyous
light of this new day, bring us to the guiding
light of eternity.

**God above us, God beneath us,
God behind us, God before us,
God in quietness, God in danger,
God in the faces of friends and
stranger.**
We give this day to God!

--readings for morning prayer adapted from **A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God** by Norman Shawchuck & Rueben P. Job
—prayer liturgies are adapted from the Iona Community resources