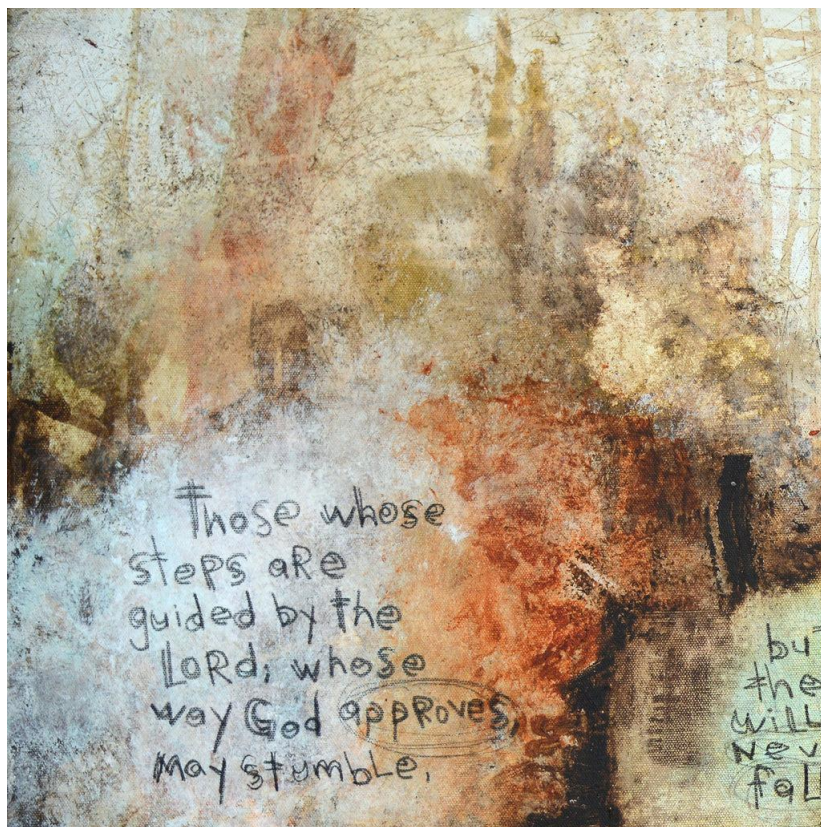


Second Sunday service: 14 May 2023 Praying with the Psalms



Lord you have been our dwelling place,
in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
before ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night. (Psalm 90:1-2, 4)

Living God, giver of life,
we praise you that you nourish us with your grace.

Living God, bearer of our burdens,
we praise you that you look on us with compassion.

Living God, source of love
we praise you that you meet us where we are.

Prayer of thanksgiving

Let us thank God for the good things
of this week and other weeks
through which we are blessed.

For experiences shared
which we want to keep in our minds.

For conversations
which have brought us new ideas.

For words from God
which open our hearts at this time.

For those who shape our vision
and share our purpose.

And for Jesus Christ,
who has come to stay,

and to summon us,
this week, today and tomorrow and forever.
Amen.

God in our lives

Verses from Psalm 139

Silence

God of our earliest memory,
we give you thanks for happy memories,
blessings of home, family and old friends,
O God, you have searched me and known me:
**You know when I sit down and rise up,
you know my thoughts from far away.**

God of our earliest memory,
we bring before you the times of our lives
where there has been discord and pain,
knowing that you have walked with us through these times.
O God, you have searched me and known me:
**You know when I sit down and rise up,
you know my thoughts from far away.**

We give you thanks for faith's awakening,
ears opening to your Word,
eyes opening to your presence,
mind shaping to your call
heart warming to your love:

O God, you have searched me and known me:
**You know when I sit down and rise up,
you know my thoughts from far away.**

Tender and compassionate

Verses from Psalm 103

Silence

We bring to God all that has opened us to life,
our sense of connectedness, meaning and purpose,
our experience of beauty, wonder and peace,
and we offer them.

Bless the Lord O my soul,
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

We bring to God our anxieties, worries and fears,
all that has clouded our hearts and minds,
and we let them go.

Bless the Lord O my soul,
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

We bring to God all that has opened us to hope,
our imagination, our dreams and creativity,
the gifts and abilities that have stretched our horizons,
and we offer them.

Bless the Lord O my soul,
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

God's kindness forever

Verses from Psalm 136

Silence

Where we have known God's kindness,
give us hearts of thanks.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Where we have failed to receive acts of kindness,
where we have been complacent and proud,
give us hearts of humility.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Where we have been unkind,
help us to begin again.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Ordained to glory

Psalm 8

Silence

God has accomplished marvellous things:
O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Lead us in new appreciation
for the works of God's hands:
O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

May we work to restore the earth's balance and beauty:

**O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

May we live as faithful disciples,
telling all that the Lord has done:

**O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

And may we remember that Jesus is always with us,
to the end of the age.

**O Lord our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Prayers of concern

We pray for those who need to be remembered today:
for those who have made the news headlines today
because of what they have done or said.

Kyrie eleison

For those who have been brought to our attention
through a conversation or an encounter

Kyrie eleison

For those we know will have difficulty
coping with themselves today,

Kyrie eleison

For those who are in hospital or care,
or in a place which is strange to them,

Kyrie eleison

For those who are agonising over decisions they have to make,

Kyrie eleison

For those in whose relationships there is stress or unhappiness,

Kyrie eleison

For those who need your peace and justice,

Kyrie eleison

For any other situation on our hearts,

Kyrie eleison

And for ourselves,

Kyrie eleison

The Lord's Prayer

Final prayer

May God's wisdom guide us
wherever we walk;

May God's wisdom encourage us
in our daily activity;

May God's wisdom work change in us,
and be lived out with hope;

May we taste and see God's goodness
and may God's wisdom be our delight,
now today and for evermore.

Amen.

(Materials from various Wild Goose Iona resources)

