

From the Iona Abbey Worship Book - A Simple Liturgy

We acknowledge that for thousands of years the Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth and Kwakwaka'wakw peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where we now live, work, worship and play. We seek a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect, and we thank them for their hospitality.

Peace on each one who comes in need.

Peace on each one who comes in joy.

Peace on each one who offers prayers.

Peace on each one who offers song.

Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son,

Peace of the Spirit, the Triune One.

Hymn CP 167 'Tis Good Lord to be here

Shirley

Children's Time

The Kids & David

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

We give you thanks.

O God, 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.

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.

We give you thanks.

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

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.

The Collect

Wally

Almighty God, on the holy mount you revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured: mercifully deliver us from the darkness of this world, and change us into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

The Word of God

Russ

The story that you are about to hear records the succession of the prophet Elisha following the departure of his predecessor and mentor Elijah. It is one among a number of the legendary stories that are a part of Israel's history. The departure of Elijah, told in terms of a chariot of fire, came to associate the prophet in the minds of the Jewish people with the coming of the reign of God. Listen also to the connection being made between Elijah and Moses – the parting of the waters – and the presence of both of them with Jesus in today's gospel story. A reading from 2nd Kings, chapter 2:1-12.

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.

Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father,

father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Psalm 50: 1-6

Rachel

REFRAIN God reveals himself in glory.

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken; he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty, God reveals himself in glory. **R**

Our God will come and will not keep silence; before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm. He calls the heavens and the earth from above to witness the judgement of his people. **R**

"Gather before me my loyal followers, those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice." Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; for God himself is judge. **R**

Paul's gospel that he was sharing with non-Jewish (gentile) believers in the Christ-community in Corinth was rejected by many outside the community. These preferred to stay with the gods with whom they were more familiar. Thus Paul writes of a veil that prevents them from accepting the good news of acceptance delivered through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Whilst this veil of unbelief covers their face and minds the light of Christ is unable to penetrate. A reading from 2nd Corinthians, chapter 4, verses 3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Gospel

Wally

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

The Good News of Jesus Christ According to Mark 9: 2-9
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of Christ.

Sharing of the Day

Pastor John Gram

Hymn CP457 Alleluia! God of Glory

Rachel

Prayers of the People

Ruth

We bring to God someone whom we have met or remembered today and for whom we want to pray.

We bring to God someone who is hurting today and needs our prayer.

We bring to God, silently, someone whom we find hard to forgive or trust.

We bring ourselves to God that we might grow in generosity of spirit, clarity of mind, and warmth of affection.

Announcements

- * Wardens
- * Other members of the congregation
- * Deacon Wally

Hymn CP505 Be thou my Vision

Allison

Closing and Dismissal

Wally

O Trinity of Love, you have been with us since the beginning

Be with us till the world's end.

You have been with us at our life's shaping,

Be with us at our life's end.

You have been with us at the sun's rising,

Be with us till the day's end. Amen

[in these or similar words] Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.