

St.Mary's Church, Eastham



Celtic Morning Prayer

Wednesday 18th November 2020

OPENING

We swim in the ocean of the Spirit,
held within her limitless love.

Grace falls upon us, a gentle rain,
released from the heart of God.

We touch the depths and the air-kissed waves,
the flow of feelings, connecting all to all.

**We open mind and heart, body and spirit
to the living water,
to the flowing love,
to the God around us and within us.**

As the deer longs for the flowing waters,
so my soul thirsts for you, Holy One.

ATTENDING

May deep speak to deep.

The water that gives birth to all creation
also gives birth to us.

The water that lives in every creature
also lives in us.

The water that refreshes the dry places of the earth
also renews us.

May deep speak to deep;
and may we hear the murmur of the Spirit,
the wisdom of water,
deeper than words can say.

A Psalm: Psalm 104: 1-13 (NLT)

- ¹ Let all that I am praise the LORD.
O LORD my God, how great you are!
You are robed with honour and majesty.
- ² You are dressed in a robe of light.
You stretch out the starry curtain of the heavens;
³ you lay out the rafters of your home in the rain clouds.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride upon the wings of the wind.
- ⁴ The winds are your messengers;
flames of fire are your servants.
- ⁵ You placed the world on its foundation
so it would never be moved.
- ⁶ You clothed the earth with floods of water,
water that covered even the mountains.
- ⁷ At your command, the water fled;
at the sound of your thunder, it hurried away.
- ⁸ Mountains rose and valleys sank
to the levels you decreed.
- ⁹ Then you set a firm boundary for the seas,
so they would never again cover the earth.
- ¹⁰ You make springs pour water into the ravines,
so streams gush down from the mountains.
- ¹¹ They provide water for all the animals,
and the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
- ¹² The birds nest beside the streams
and sing among the branches of the trees.
- ¹³ You send rain on the mountains from your heavenly home,
and you fill the earth with the fruit of your labour.

(A short time of silence for personal reflection)

A Gospel reading: John 4:9-15 (NLT)

⁹The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?”

¹⁰Jesus replied, “If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.”

¹¹“But sir, you don’t have a rope or a bucket,” she said, “and this well is very deep. Where would you get this living water? ¹²And besides, do you think you’re greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us this well? How can you offer better water than he and his sons and his animals enjoyed?”

¹³Jesus replied, “Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. ¹⁴But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.”

¹⁵“Please, sir,” the woman said, “give me this water! Then I’ll never be thirsty again, and I won’t have to come here to get water.”

(A short time of silence for personal reflection)

A SHORT REFLECTION

A Song of the River *(Inspired by Ezekiel 47)*

The river flows from the Sanctuary,
a blessing for the land and it’s creatures.

It washes away bitterness and satisfies thirst,
a living stream from the heart of God.

It is the grace of healing,
and the promise of food for all.

In the depths of God’s love,
we are immersed, we are sustained.

It is a life without conditions,
beyond all we can measure.

Wherever the river flows,
everything will live.

It will teem with living creatures
and feed the growing trees.

See and taste that God is good,
in the waters of creation.

Glory to the God in the lifting air.
Glory to the God in the heat of the sun.
Glory to the God in the water’s flow.
Glory to the God in the darkness of earth.
Glory to God in all creation.

OFFERING

We long for transformation,
your compassion for all who thirst.

Water changed into wine:
creation received as miracle and delight.

Deserts blossoming and bursting into song:
wilderness received as spirit and freedom.

The tree of life, planted by the river:
the cross received as healing and hope.

We long for transformation,
your compassion for all who thirst.

A Time of Prayer

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

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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.**

BLESSING

**The living water restore us;
the fathomless depths renew us;
the falling rain awaken us.
May the blessings of water be ours to share,
running free and clear,
and glinting like diamonds
in the light of glory.
AMEN**

Liturgy adapted from *The Earth Cries Glory* by Steven Shakespeare
Shakespeare, S., 2019. *The Earth Cries Glory*. Norwich: Canterbury Press
Prayers adapted from *Love the World* by David Adam
Adam, D., 2018. *Love The World*. London: SPCK.

