Saturday 9 am Prayer for May 23, 2020

\*\*Please note BOLD is for your response.

BELL

Call to Worship

O Creator, let my soul rise up to meet you

**As the day rises to meet the sun.**

**Glory to God the Creator, the Son, and the Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, forever! Amen.**

Prayer of Approach

Lord, we praise you this morning for the love that grants us freedom,

**and for the grace that allows us to dwell in peace.**

We praise you for the sun that shines upon our endeavours

**and for the moon and the stars at night which remind us of your glory.**

We thank you for the many good things that you have bestowed upon us.

**Help us, O God, in this time of worship, and beyond,**

**to have a heart that exalts in your grace and goodness,**

**lips unafraid to proclaim your praise,**

**and minds which are focussed on living**

**according your glorious and living word.**

**We ask this through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Moment of Silence

Proclamation of the Word

*Reading of the Psalm*

Background:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Ck_obeIHi8>

Psalm 93

Yhwh reigns, robed in splendor!

You are robed, Yhwh, and armed with strength.

The world stand firm and cannot be moved;

Your throne stands firm from ages past;

from eternity You exist.

The seas are shouting, Yhwh –

the seas raise their voices;

the shout with pounding waves.

Stronger than the thunder of great waters,

mightier than the breakers of the sea;

mightiest of all is Yhwh!

Your reign was made known from of old;

the holy ones praise You in Your Temple,

Yhwh, for days without end.

*Gospel acclamation (Alleluia)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (x 2)

*Reading of the Gospel*

John 8:21-30

Again he said to them: “I am going away. You’ll look for me, but you’ll die in your sins. Where I am going, you cannot come.” At this, some of the Temple authorities said to one another, “Is he going to kill himself? Is that what he means by saying, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come’?” Jesus went on, “You belong to what is below; I am from above. You’re of this world; I am not of this world. I have told you already, you’ll die in your sins. Yes, you will surely die in your sins unless you believe that I AM.” So they said to Jesus, “Who are you?” Jesus answered, “What have I told you from the beginning? About you I have much to say and much to condemn; but the One who sent me is truthful, and what I have learned I now declare to the world.” They didn’t grasp that Jesus was speaking about Abba God. Jesus continued, “When you have lifted up the Chosen One, then you’ll know that I AM and that I do nothing of myself; I say only what Abba God has taught me. The One who sent me is with me and has not deserted me, because I always do God’s will.” While he spoke, many became believers.

*Gospel acclamation (Alleluia)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (x 2)

BELL

Silence

Please join me in singing Hillsong United’s *Oceans*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2PNTq_-mZs>

I invite you to share your thoughts on the morning…

Abba, Spirit, Son be beside us as we together recite our Affirmation of Faith.

Affirmation of Faith – UCC Creed

**We are not alone,**

**we live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus,**

**the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others**

**by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God’s presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People

*You Call us in the Voice of the Great Storms*

By Patricia Brennan-Alpert, January 9, 2011

Holy God,

You call us in the voice of the great storms.

You call us in the sound of birds’ wings.

We hear your still small voice in fellowship and when we are alone.

**In silence we offer our praise and thanks.**

You call us to help your kingdom come on earth.

Your voice orients us in the confusion of life.

We can find the good path, the right way, because you walk with us.

**In silence we offer our praise and thanks.**

Blessed God, as we are gathered here and connected in you, we ask that the loving energy of our prayers touch the ones we pray for.

We pray for friends and relatives who are lonely, sick, at the end of their ropes, burdened with worry, grief or fear. Let them feel our care and know they are not alone…

We pray our teachers and leaders can draw on your strength and patience. May they find refreshment and joy in your presence…

We pray for the powerful. God, bless their good intentions. May they find guidance in you…

We pray for poor hungry, wounded, scared people here and every where…

We pray for prisoners, slaves, the oppressed and abused right here and everywhere…

We want for them what we want for ourselves;

To reach through our preoccupations and live nourished by your love,

To trust in you enough to be free.

**In silence we bring our concerns to you.**

We pray in Jesus name,

**Amen.**

And finally, God we end with the prayer taught to us by Your beloved Jesus:

**Our Father, Our Mother, who art in heaven,**

**Hallowed by thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done in earth,**

**As it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**As we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**But deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**The power, and the glory,**

**For ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

May the peace of Christ go with you: wherever He may send You;

May He guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm;

May He bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders He has shown you;

May He bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

BELL