

Friday Morning Prayer for Celtic Advent 2023

Opening sentences

Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to you, Source of all Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Opening Prayer

God of hope, who brought love into this world,

be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,

be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,

be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon,

be the centre, the focus of our lives always, and particularly this Advent time.

Hymn or Poem (if selected)

Psalm

Glory to you Source of All Being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Gospel

Silence

Shared Reflections

The Shema/ Hear O Israel

Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God With all your heart, With all your soul, With all your mind, And with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

United in the company of all the faithful, let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Spoken or silent intercessions are offered to God and before each other.

The Lord's Prayer

We'll say the Lord's Prayer together in whatever form or paraphrase you choose.

Blessing | Sending

We take the light of our prayer into the world:

To pray for those unable to pray, to offer ourselves as answers to prayer.

We take the light of our compassion into the world:

To come alongside those who are suffering anguish of heart, anguish of mind, and be as Christ for them.

We take the light of God's power into the world:

God's power made perfect in powerlessness, strength made known in weakness, life made known in dying.

God enters the hearts of all who pray - and feel they are not heard - suffers their pain - their humiliation - carries the burdens of the world and dies that we might live

May our God bless us

Source of all Being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit.

And until we meet again

May we be held in the palm of God's hand. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May Christ, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**