

## Friday Morning Prayer for Epiphany 2024

### Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us. Let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever. **Amen.**

In a refugee child playing under a star ...

In an anonymous young man requesting baptism ...

In a wandering preacher refreshed by water from a woman's hand ...

**God was waiting to be recognised and known, to transform seeing and change the world.**

In the routine smallness of everyday life ...

In the jagged discomfort of struggle and transition ...

In the timeless grace of hospitality, and the gifts of bread and wine ...

**God is waiting to be recognised and known, to transform our seeing and change our world.**

God of proclamation and epiphany,

**Through the words of prophets and angels you reveal the possibilities of a different way for the world ...**

God of encounter and epiphany,

**Through the life and actions of Jesus you reveal the passionate love at the heart of your Kingdom ...**

God of epiphany and challenge, as we hear you now

**Open our knowing and understanding to your patterns and their possibilities.**

*(Adapted from "Morning Prayer for Epiphany from the Iona Community" and "Essential Celtic Prayers" by Thomas McPherson)*

*Silence*

### 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.**