

Celtic Healing Service (from the Iona Abbey Worship Book)

Greeting: Please take a few moments to center yourself and come into the presence of the Divine Healer. (*Observe a few moments of silent gathering.*)

Opening Prayer:

Leader: If you come into this virtual gathering in certainty or in confusion, in anger or in anguish.

All: **This time is for us.**

Leader: If you come in silent suffering or hidden sorrow, in pain or promise.

All: **This time is for us.**

Leader: If you come for your own or another's need, for a private wound or a wound of the world.

All: **This time is for us.**

Leader: If you come and do not know why, to be here is enough.

All: **This time is for ALL.**

Leader: Come now, Christ of the forgiving warmth, Come now, Christ of the yearning tears, Come now, Christ of the transforming touch

All: **This time is for YOU.**

Opening Responses:

Leader: Loving God, you share with us the care of creation, and call each of us by name. We remember that those who encountered Jesus found acceptance, healing and the possibility of new life, that the disciples, though imperfect human beings, through prayer and touch, helped others to find healing in the power of your Holy Spirit.

So in the name of the Triune God we pray...

Leader: We gather here in your presence, God.

All: **In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.**

Leader: We come to you, for you came to us in Jesus.

All: **And you know by experience what human life is like.**

Leader: We come with our faith and with our doubts.

All: **We come with our hopes and our fears.**

Leader: We come as we are, because you invite us to come.

All: **And you have promised never to turn us away.**

Leader: Jesus said, “So come, you who are troubled and I will give you rest.” So come, you who are burdened by regrets and anxieties, you who are broken in body or in spirit, you who are torn by relationships, and by doubt, you who feel deeply within yourselves the divisions of our world, Come... for Jesus invites us to bring him our brokenness.

Readings (at least the Gospel for the Day)

Intercessions

Leader: Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer pain and ill-health, with their families, friends, and those who care for them.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer in mind and spirit, and all those who care for them.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: Loving God, we hold in your healing presence the suffering people of our world, and the places where people are experiencing divisions, injustice and violence. We especially ask your Holy Spirit to be with all those suffering from COVID-19, for those fearful of catching it, for those suffering economic hardship and the loss of jobs and income, and for those sheltering in place.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those struggling to overcome addiction or abuse, those supporting and working with them, and all whose suffering has distanced them from those who love them.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those facing bereavement. We also pray for those who have died.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: Loving God, we give you thanks for health restored and prayers answered.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**

Leader: We hold in your healing presence and peace those whose needs are not known to us...And those whose names we do not know, but who are known to you, and those for whom we have been asked to pray.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**
Leader: May your wisdom, God, guide nurses, doctors, hospitals and those who work in every part of our health systems across the world: for health departments, decision makers, epidemiologists, researchers, drug manufacturers, and medical equipment makers. We pray also for those who work in the coast guard, armed forces, emergency services, and all first responders.

All: **May they know the deep peace of Christ.**
We will go one by one so that each person may name those for whom they are praying today. Then close with this prayer

Leader: God of compassion and love, we offer you all our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure, peace in the midst of turmoil, and love to fill the space in our lives. May the Holy Spirit anoint you with her blessing. **Amen.**

Leader: For Loving the world and knowing our names

All: **Thank you God.**

Leader: For your strength that fills us and your love that heals us.

All: **Thank you God.**

Leader: For your presence here with us today and for your hand that leads us into tomorrow.

All: **Thank you God.**

Leader: Come bless us, hold us, wrestle with us, warm us in your embrace.

All: **For we are your people and you are our God.**

Leader: Glory to God from whom all love flows, glory to Jesus who showed his love through suffering, and glory to the Holy Spirit who brings light to the darkest places. **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession: (All)

Merciful God

For the things we have done that we regret, forgive us

For the things we have failed to do that we regret, forgive us

For all the times we have acted without love, forgive us

For all the times we have reacted without thought, forgive us

For all the times we have withdrawn care, forgive us

For all the times we have failed to forgive, forgive us

**For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid, forgive us.
For unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes, God of all time, forgive us
and help us to lay down our burden of regret,**

Priest: May God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from your sins, and give you time to amend your life. **Amen.**

Sign of Peace

Leader: May the God of peace grant you peace at all times and in all ways.

All: **And also to you.**

Leader: Let us pray in the words our Savior taught us
**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
Now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing:

Priest: In darkness and in light, as we sleep and when we wake, in rest and in work, in sadness and in joy, may we be aware of your holy presence and mindful of your faithful love.

I bless you, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Sacred Spirit, the One and the Three. May God's sunchine be bright upon you, may the night call down peace, and when you come into God's nearer presence may the door be open wide for you to go into your joy.

All: **Amen.**

Priest: Go in the peace of the Three in One, who is ever present, and be of service to the world!

All: **Thanks be to God!**