

**Morning Liturgy F - from A Wee Worship Book, 5th Incarnation,
Wild Goose Resource Group (Iona Community)
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Silence

Opening Responses:

Leader: In the beginning, before time, before people, before the world began,

All: God was.

Leader: Here and now, among us, beside us, clearer than air, closer than breathing,

All: God is.

Leader: In all that is to come, when we have turned to dust and human knowledge has been completed,

All: God will be.

Leader: Not despairing of earth, but delighting in it; not condemning this world, but redeeming it through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

All: God was, God is, God will be.

Leader: Let us pray: Holy and gracious God, we live in a world of wonder, conceived by your divine imagination. The universe is your creation born out of love and generosity.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: Through centuries of thought and searching through law and wisdom, insight and experience, your will and purpose were gradually glimpsed until, in Jesus, all that was hidden was revealed, and you let the earth be touched by heaven.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: In the beauty of the earth, in the silence of our hearts, in the community of your church, in all works of grace and kindness, in forgiving from the heart and in worship from the soul, your Spirit confirms the truth by which we live.

All: Hallowed be your name.

Leader: If, in knowing this, we have failed to love you our Maker, been hesitant to follow your Son, and suspected the power of your Spirit; Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:: If we have desired comfort more than devotion, if we have satisfied our wants more than we have served your will; if we have worshiped a lesser god and gone for an easier gospel; Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: If, in the face of your openness, we have privatized our wealth, limited our company to those like us, restricted our conversation to matters of no consequence, and in all this compromised our integrity and lost faith in our faith; Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Forgive us so that we may have no defense against your will; and then make us friends of your purpose and worthy companions of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

All: Amen.

Psalm 95

Leader: Come, let us sing a joyful song to God; shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.

All: Let us enter God's presence with gratitude, and worship with heartfelt joy.

Leader: The Lord is a great God, greater than every idol.

All: The depths of the earth are in God's care, as are the highest mountains.

Leader: The sea belongs to God, whose hands carved out the land.

All: Let us draw near to God in worship, and come before our Maker; for we are the flock whom God shepherds.

A Reading from Holy Scripture

Reader: Hear the word of God. (*A passage is read*)

Reader:: Give thanks to the One whose word is life.

All: Blessed be God forever.

(Reflection and/or silence)

Prayers of Concern:

Leader: May it not be long before the world we pray for and the world we inhabit are one. May it not be long before the domination of wealth over want, white over black, man over woman, privileged over the poor; are facts of history and not facts of life. *(Pause)*

Leader: May it not be long, Lord, before the earth no longer suffers through human selfishness, so the the valleys can sing again, the meadows laugh, and barren places burst into bloom. *(Pause)*

Leader: May it not be long, Lord, before economic power comes only with accountability, and money and taxation are wedded to just purposes. *(Pause)*

Leader: Hear now the concerns of our hearts, offered in faith and hope.
*(Individual prayers of concern may be offered, ending with 'Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**').*

Leader: God hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and make us willing agents of your gracious purposes, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Closing Responses:

Leader: It is true that God loves the world. It is true that God loves all people. It is true that Jesus came to make all things new.

All: Yes, these things are true.

Leader: Then let us do as those whom God has called: to bear witness to the love and justice of heaven, to be beacons of light and signs of transformation, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.