

Morning Liturgy 'M' - adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book, 2001

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Welcome and a short time of silence to centre and prepare.

Leader God of all creation, from our very beginning you knew us.
Help us to remember that you are both with us and for us at all new beginnings – each new day, each fresh challenge, each new joy or sorrow. We need fear nothing, for you are always there.

Leader O God of life, of all life and of each life, we lay our lives before you, and give our lives to you, from whom nothing in us is hidden.

**All You are before us, God, you are behind.
You are around us, God, you are within.**

Leader O God of life, you know the secret thoughts of every heart.

**All We bring the faith that is in us, and the doubt.
We bring the joy that is in us, and the sorrow.**

Leader O God of life, you are in the light and in the darkness.

**All We bring the knowing that is in us, and the unknowing.
We bring the hope that is in us, and the despair.**

Leader O God of life, O generous Spirit

All Renew us with your life, today, tomorrow and always. Amen.

Leader Listen now for God's word. *(A passage of Scripture is read).*

Leader For the word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the word of God within us,

All Thanks be to God.

(Silence for reflection and/or another brief reading may follow).

Prayers

Leader Holy God, who in Jesus touched the earth, admiring its beauty and blessing its people, we honour you for the gift of life, and all the gifts that life brings us: food, shelter, company, the experiences that make us think, the people that bring out the best in us. Hear our prayers for the places in this world where beauty has turned to ugliness, food has been replaced by famine, friendship has been forgotten, and fear, hostility and hopelessness have the upper hand. *(pause)*

All God, in your mercy, bring healing, bring peace.

Leader Hear our prayers for people who cannot pray because of pain, loss or worry; and for those who will not love themselves and so cannot love their neighbour. *(pause)*

All God, in your mercy, bring healing, bring peace.

Leader Hear our prayers for ourselves – our private yearnings, our secret hopes, and any doubt, jealousy or anger to which we hold too tightly. *(pause)*

All God, in your mercy, bring healing, bring peace.

(Our own individual prayers and concerns are offered within the group).

Leader God of life, God of mercy, hear our prayers offered in faith and trust.

All Amen.

Our worship concludes:

Leader Bless to us, O God, the sun, moon and stars that are above us, the earth that is beneath us, the friends who are around us, your image deep within us. **Amen.**

Leader Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**