

A Celtic Mass for Peace

Overture

Invocation

Come, come, O Christ,
and stand in our midst
as you did stand in the midst of your disciples,
and speak to us words of peace.

Peace to each woman, peace to each man.
Peace to each family, peace to each child.
Peace to the creatures, peace to the nations.
Peace in our hearts, peace in our world.

**Come, come, O Christ,
and stand in our midst
as you did stand in the midst of your disciples,
and speak to us words of peace.**

Come to us from the heart of God.
Come to us from the garden of our beginnings.
Come to us from the center of this moment.
Come to us from the true depths of our soul.

Come, come, O Christ,
and stand in our midst
as you did stand in the midst of your disciples,
and speak to us words of peace.

Song of the Universe

*O God of the elements,
O God of the mysteries,
O God of the sun and the moon. ...*

*Your joy our joy,
Your pain our pain,
Your peace our peace, our peace.*

*Son of Mary of the birth,
Son of Mary of the death,
Son of Mary of the graces.*

Grant us your peace ...

(based on Ancient Celtic Prayer)

Readings & Reflections

The Great Thanksgiving

Great Creator Spirit
from whom all life comes forth
here we gather again with bread and with wine
seeking your presence
longing once more to be nourished
hungering for wholeness in our lives
for unity on earth and for peace among the nations.

**Here we gather with bread and with wine
but with more than bread and wine.**

Here we gather with creation's elements all around us,
with earth, air, fire and water still expanding through the universe,
with the glory of the sun
the whiteness of the moon
the glittering of heaven's lights off flowing waters.

**Here we gather with bread and with wine
but with more than bread and wine.**

Here we gather with the firm fecundity of the earth
the growing and greening of trees
creatures of the day and night
birds of the air
all full of your glory
all bearers of your presence
all part of the great harmony
that we long to touch and taste and become one with again.

**Here we gather with bread and with wine
but with more than bread and wine.**

So with everything that we see and sense around us
with visible and invisible energies that pulse with life
we join our souls in the song that vibrates throughout the whole of creation,
Holy, holy, holy God, your presence fills all things.

Sanctus - Chant

*Holy, holy, holy One.
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

***Holy, holy, holy One.
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.***

(Instrumental, followed by repetition of the above)

Prayer for the Earth

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God.

Your presence fills all things.

Yet what have we done?

Creation marred by neglect and abuse

life-forms torn forever out of the fabric of the universe

nature raped

wealth wasted

earth's community divided

nations at war

communities fractured

families broken

the human soul sick and far from home.

Great Creator Spirit, hear our plea for mercy

hear our prayers for the earth.

Christe - Chant

Christ, Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Christ, Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Earth, Earth have mercy. Earth have mercy.

Earth, Earth have mercy. Earth have mercy.

Christ, Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Christ, Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

(Instrumental – during which we name aloud places in our world that are longing for peace –followed by a repetition of the above)

The Memory of Jesus

Into our brokenness came the memory of wholeness

into our fear came the messenger of love

Christ born among us

one with us

child of heaven

son of womankind

bearer of forgiveness

healer of our nature

teacher of wisdom

prophet of peace

rejected by the religious

crucified by the state

companion of our soul

lover of the earth.

Agnus Dei - Chant

*Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world.*
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world.**

(Repetition of the above)

Have mercy on us.

(Instrumental)

*Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world.*
**Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world.**

(Repetition of the above)

Grant us peace.

The Breaking of the Bread

With his disciples at table on the night of his arrest
Jesus blessed the bread and said,
'This is my body, broken for you.'

(the bread is broken and lifted)

With his disciples at table on the night of his arrest
Jesus blessed the wine and said,
'This is my lifeblood, poured out for you.'

(the wine is poured and lifted)

Come upon us with your Spirit, O God,
and upon this bread of the earth.
May it feed our longings for peace.
Come upon us with your Spirit, O God,
and upon this cup of unity.
May it set us free to love.

Benedictus - Chant

*Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of God.*
**Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of God.**
Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,

who comes in the name of God.

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of God.**

(Instrumental)

*Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of God.*
**Blessed is the One, O blessed is the One,
who comes in the name of God.**

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer for Unity

Broken bread, poured out wine,
signs of Christ's self-giving.
**Broken bread, poured out wine,
food for the journey into wholeness.**
In this bread we choose to be fed by you, O Christ.
In this wine we choose the way of peace.
Blessed is the One who comes to strengthen us.
Blessed is the One who comes to unite us.
Blessed is the One who leads us into the Heart of God.
Blessed, blessed, blessed.

(The Sharing of the Bread and the Wine)

Communion Song

*Christ stands before you and peace is in his mind.
Christ stands before you and love is in his eyes.
Christ stands before you and strength is in his hands. ...*

(Instrumental)

**Christ stands before you and peace is in his mind.
Christ stands before you and love is in his eyes.
Christ stands before you and strength is in his hands. ...**

(based on Ancient Celtic Prayer)

Prayer to the Spirit

Great Creating Spirit,
who swept over the depths of the unknown
to give birth to creation in all its splendour.

**Great Creating Spirit,
who conceived new life in the womb of Mary
to give birth to the Child of Peace.**

Great Creating Spirit,
who hovers over the waters of the human soul today
to give birth to healings and visions that have never been before.

Come to us as an earth community.

Come to us as nations of the world.

Grant us wholeness.

Grant us healing.

Grant us together a new language that we may be one.

Song of Peace

*Peace between nations,
Peace between neighbours,
Peace between lovers,
In love of the God of life. ...*

*Bless O Christ our hearts,
Bless O Christ our minds,
Bless O Christ our eyes,
Let our eyes bless all they see. ...*

Grant us your peace ...

(based on Ancient Celtic Prayer)

The Blessing of Peace

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

(based on Ancient Celtic Prayer)

Amen