



THE CENTER
for Christian Spirituality

Celtic Contemplative Worship

8:45 a.m. + June 6, 2021

Christ above us, beneath us,
beside us, within us,
what need have we for temples made with hands?
~ George MacLeod

Crossing the Threshold into Worship

Singing with Columba

“Alone with None but You, My God”

*Alone with none but you, my God, I journey on my way.
What need I fear when you are near, O Lord of night and day?
More safe am I within your hand, than if a host did round me stand.*

Trusting the Spirit's Presence

Psalm 139

*Lord, you have searched us out and known us;
You know our sitting down and our rising up;
You discern our thoughts from afar.*

***You trace our journeys and our resting-places
And are acquainted with all our ways.***

*You press upon us behind and before
and lay Your hand upon us.*

*Where can we go then from Your Spirit?
Where can we flee then from Your Presence?*

***You trace our journeys and our resting-places
And are acquainted with all our ways.***

If we climb up to heaven, You are there.

If we make the grave our bed, You are there.

*If we take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there Your hand will lead us and Your right hand hold us fast.*

***You trace our journeys and our resting-places
And are acquainted with all our ways.***

Search us, O God, and know our hearts!

Try us and know our cares!

*And see if there be any painful way in us,
and lead us in the Ancient Way!*

Christ Above Us

George MacLeod

*Invisible we see You, Christ above us.
With earthy eyes we see above us, clouds or sunshine, grey or bright.
But with the eye of faith we know you reign:
instinct in the sun ray
speaking in the storm,
warming and moving all creation, Christ above us.*

Silence for Reflection

We Respond

"Be Thou My Vision"

*Be Thou my vision, oh Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light.*

*Great God of heaven my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, oh bright heaven's sun.
Heart of my own heart whatever befall,
Still be my vision, oh ruler of all.*

Christ Beneath Us

George MacLeod

*Invisible we see You, Christ beneath us.
With earthly eyes we see beneath us stones and dust and dross,
fit subjects for the analyst's table.
But with the eye of faith, we know You uphold.
In You all things consist and hang together:
the very atom is light energy
the grass is vibrant,
the rocks pulsate.*

*All is in flux, turn but a stone and an angel moves.
Underneath are the everlasting arms.
Unknowable we know you, Christ beneath us.*

Silence for Reflection

We Respond

"We Are Grounded in You"

*Every mountain points the way to you.
Every clump of earth recalls how we were made.
Every rock sings out songs of faithfulness,
And reminds us all that is true:
We are grounded in you.*

Christ Beside Us

George MacLeod

*Inapprehensible we know you, Christ beside us.
With earthly eyes we see men and women,
exuberant or dull, tall or small.
But with the eye of faith,
we know you dwell in each.
You are imprisoned . . . in the dope fiend and the drunk,
dark in the dungeon, but you are there.
You are released, resplendent,
in the loving mother, . . . the passionate bride,
and in every sacrificial soul.
Inapprehensible we know you, Christ beside us.*

Silence for Reflection

Seeing Christ In Others

Christ Within Us

George MacLeod

*Intangible, we touch you, Christ within us.
With earthly eyes we see ourselves,
dust of the dust, earth of the earth....
But with the eye of faith,
we know ourselves all girt about of eternal stuff,
our minds capable of Divinity,
our bodies groaning, waiting for the revealing,
our souls redeemed, renewed.
Intangible we touch you, Christ within us.*

Centering in the Silence

During these few minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. Simply be here now. Descend into this silence. There is nothing you need to do. Just let go. Relax. Sense your body. Breathe deeply. If it helps, use a sacred word to help you descend into this silence (such as Christ, Center, Mercy, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit) or a breath prayer, such as "Here" (inhale) "I am" (exhale).

We Respond

"Within"

*Within, within.
Within my soul a treasure lies,
The God of heaven and earth resides within. Within.
This temple built of flesh and bone,
Contains inside God's holy throne!
Within. Within. Within.*

*In faith. In fear.
No matter what may come along,
Within my heart you sing a song of hope. Of love.
A reassuring melody,
That stirs from deep inside of me.
Within. Within. Within.*

Holy Communion

Singing with St. Patrick

"Christ Be Beside Me"

*Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,
Christ be above me, never to part.*

*Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.*

*Christ be in all hearts, thinking about me,
Christ be on all tongues telling of me,
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me, Christ ever be.*

Receiving a Good Word

*Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please register your attendance.
If you are worshipping online, please text the word **center** to 75787.
If you are worshipping in person, please text the word **chapel** to 75787.*

*For further Contemplative Resources please visit
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6902676>*