

Friday Morning Payer | Advent 2021

Gathering: (sung)

*Let my soul rise up to meet You  
As the day rises to the sun  
Let my soul rise up to meet You  
Let that patient kingdom come*

*When's the last time you felt steady in the chaos  
Hear the sound when the sea falls to earth  
Is it time to give up your destination?  
Slow me down, let love do its work*

*Let my soul...*

God of hope, who brought love into this world,  
**be the love that dwells between us.**  
God of hope, who brought peace into this world,  
**be the peace that dwells between us.**  
God of hope, who brought joy into this world,  
**be the joy that dwells between us.**  
God of hope, the rock we stand upon,  
**be the centre, the focus of our lives  
always, and particularly this Advent time.**

Confession:

You move us to delight in praising You; for You have made us for Yourself,  
**And our hearts are restless until they rest in You.** (St. Augustine)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)

*In silence let us confess our faults and admit our frailty.*

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.** (PCUSA)

The Psalm:

*... at the end of the Psalm:*

**Glory to you Source of All Being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.**

Gospel Acclamation: (sung) Make a Way

*O make a way! Open wide the gates*

*O make a way! - through the sorrow and the pain*

*O make a way! - though the road us dark and winding,*

*O come, Come.*

O make a way! o-pen wide the gates. O make a way! through the sor row and the pain. O make a way!

through the road is dark and wind - ing, O come, come!

Kate Bluett, Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach / © 2021 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs and Hymns/ASCAP / CCLI

The Gospel:

*Bell | Silence | Bell | Sharing*

Our Intercessions:

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying "Lord Jesus, come soon."

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Lord, head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Branch of Jesse, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

**Lord Jesus, come soon.**

*We offer our prayers before God and one another...*

God of Mary, Son of Mary;  
Neither birth nor death diminished you.  
Neither power nor pain destroyed you.  
Neither plenty nor little distracted you.

**So lift up our arms in strength  
so that we may lay down  
our arms and our armies,  
our fears and our prejudices.  
Because, with Mary, we know that  
the silenced have words to speak  
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: (sung)

*Our Father (or Mother/Parent) in heaven, Reveal who you are.*

*Set the world right; Do what is best— as above, so below.*

*Keep us alive with three square meals.*

*Keep us safe from the Devil and ourselves.*

*Keep us forgiven with you and forgiving others.*

*You are in charge! You can do anything! You are beautiful! (x2) Amen*

Blessing:

We are all born into this bent world  
crying for connection and reaching for a human to hold.  
Let us go forth co-creating community  
where we hold one another in mercy,  
where vulnerability is treasured and protected,  
and where compassion abounds,  
that all may know the holy freedom of being loved  
for the sake of the God who in love became human.

**Amen.**

Sending:

**May the God of hope fill us  
With all joy and peace in believing,  
So that we may abound in hope  
By the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Bell x3