**MORNING PRAYER WITH THE EMMAUS COMMUNITY**

**Prayers for St. Brigid’s Day Feb. 1**

(*adapted from “Celtic Commemorations”, Church of Ireland and traditional prayers)*

You are my strength Lord, I will love you; Under the shadow of your wings protect me. *The Prayers of Moucan, eighth century*

**SILENCE:** *Be still and aware of God’s presence within and all around.*

*Bell is rung.*

**OPENING PRAYER**

Kindle in our hearts, O God, the flame of love that never ceases, that it may burn in us, giving light to others. May we shine for ever in your temple, set on fire with your eternal light, even your Son Jesus Christ, our saviour and redeemer. Amen. *St Columba*

**FREE PRAYERS OF THANKS:** *Offer your thanksgiving to God, aloud or in silence.*

**PSALM**

**GOSPEL**

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks to be God.**

**SILENCE AS WE REFLECT ON THE WORD:** *Sit with the word or phrase that is calling to you. Allow it to unfold in your imagination and tend to the images, feelings and memories that are stirred in you. Then listen for the invitation to you in the midst of the circumstances of your life right now. How are you being invited to respond?*

*Bell is rung.*

Invitation to share reflections.

**INTERCESSIONS:**

*Pray aloud or in silence for the coming day and for healing within and among people. . Share your prayers of concern with God for yourself, for others, and for the world.*

Saint Brigid.
You were a woman of peace.
You brought harmony where there was conflict.
You brought light to the darkness.
You brought hope to the downcast.
May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.
Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.
Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.
Strengthen what is weak within us.
Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.
May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.

Amen.

**THE PRAYER OF JESUS** *(Paraphrase by Jim Cotter, VU p. 916)*

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be.**

**Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us,**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Brigid of the Mantle, encompass us,

**Lady of the Lambs, protect us,**

Keeper of the Hearth, kindle us.

**Beneath your mantle, gather us, and restore us to memory.**

Mothers of our mother, Foremothers strong.

**Guide our hands in yours,**

Remind us how to kindle the hearth. To keep it bright, to preserve the flame.

**Your hands upon ours, Our hands within yours,**

To kindle the light, Both day and night.

**The Mantle of Brigid about us, The Memory of Brigid within us,**

The Protection of Brigid keeping us from harm, from ignorance, from heartlessness. **This day and night, From dawn till dark, From dark till dawn.**

Go in peace and go in love, accompanied by the Holy Spirit, to be Christ’s face and hands and feet in the world.

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**