

Mid-week Advent Service
December 2, 2020
Advent 1 - The Creative Breath

(A few moments of silence)

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.'

'... And the Spirit (*the breath*) of God was hovering over the waters.' (John 1:1-3, Genesis 1:2)

Lord of the morning
of dawn chorus
rising sun
mist on water

Lord of the noontime
of chattering voices
laughter and fun
sparkling water
everyone

Lord of the evening
of quiet breeze
setting sun
gentle waters
day that's done

O Lord, our Lord
How majestic is your name in all the earth
You have set your glory above the heavens
And from the lips of children ordained praise
O Lord, our Lord
How majestic is your name in all the earth

Creative God, breath of all life
Through whom all things
are created and sustained;
all sons and daughters
flocks and herds,
all birds of the air
and fish of the sea
You walked this earth
as child and Creator
You touched the soil
quenched your thirst
embraced this world
brought life and light
love and laughter
into dark and death-filled lives
Creative God, breath of all life
Through whom all things

are created and sustained

**We bring to you our sacrifice
of a contrite and willing heart**

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orders all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come again and with us ever dwell**

Dona nobis pacem

1 *Canon*

Do - na no - bis pa - cem, pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - - cem.

2

Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - - cem.

3

Do - na no - bis pa - cem. Do - na no - bis pa - - cem.

Text: Traditional
Music: DONA NOBIS PACEM, traditional

'Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he answers him from his holy heaven with the saving power of his right hand.

'Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

'They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.' (Psalm 20:6-8)

(A moment of silence - During the silence, you may like to read and reflect on the words that have been read or simply enjoy the peace and calm)

May this eternal truth be always on our hearts
That the God who breathed this world into being
Placed stars into the heavens
And designed a butterfly's wing
Is the God who entrusted his life
to the care of ordinary people
became vulnerable that we might know
how strong is the power of Love

A mystery so deep it is impossible to grasp
A mystery so beautiful it is impossible to ignore

Scripture reading – Luke 21:34-38

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Every day he was teaching in the temple, and at night he would go out and spend the night on the Mount of Olives, as it was called. And all the people would get up early in the morning to listen to him in the temple

O Lord, Hear My Prayer *The Lord Is My Song*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in G-clef and a piano accompaniment in C-clef. The second system also has a vocal line in G-clef and a piano accompaniment in C-clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.
OR The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

Text: Psalm 102:1–2; Taizé Community, adapt.
Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Intercessions - A circle prayer. Imagine throwing a pebble into the center of a pond, and the circles of ripples that move out from the center.

We pray firstly for those closest to us, our immediate family and closest friends - for their health, needs, joys and fears.

(Silent prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation
Hear the prayers of our hearts

We pray for our extended family and friends who we might not see each week - for their love and concern, for their wellbeing.

(Silent prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation
Hear the prayers of our hearts

As the ripples reach out toward the land we pray for those who we only have contact with annually or less - for a blessing this Advent-time

(Silent prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation
Hear the prayers of our hearts

And as the ripples reach their furthest point, we pray for this world and its people - for the needs of this week and the future.

(Silent prayer)

God of creation, God of Salvation
Who speaks to us through thunder and whisper
Who loves us as if there were but one of us to love
Hear the prayers of our hearts

Lord, thou hast given us thy Word for a light to shine upon our path;
grant us so to meditate on that Word, and to follow its teaching,
that we may find in it the light that shines more and more until the perfect day; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen (Jerome, c 342 - 420)

Our Father...

Benediction