



LENTEN MEDIATIONS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020

10:00 AM *VIA* FACEBOOK LIVE

Our time together will begin with the ringing of a chime, followed by a minute of silence, and then a musical selection. Allow yourself to use this time to focus on your breathing, and be as fully present as you can be in whatever space you find yourself in, with the gathered community, at this very moment in time.

Opening Response and Prayer

Leader We gather in your presence, God,
All In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.
Leader We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,
All And you know by experience what human life is like.
Leader We come with our faith and with our doubts;
All We come with our hopes and with our fears.
Leader We come as we are, because you invite us to come;
All And you have promised never to turn us away.
Leader Living God, breathe your Spirit upon us, we pray,
and surround us with your love.
Giving Jesus, grant us your compassion.
Healing Spirit, come and bring us peace.
All Amen.

Song

The Kingdom of God (Taizé)

The king-dom of God is jus-tice and peace and joy in the Ho-ly
Spi - rit. Come, Lord, and o-pen in us the gates of your king-dom. The

Scripture

Psalm 107:1-9

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Kaleidoscope Bible Study

The Bible passage will be read 3 times. After each reading, everyone will be invited to share their reflections.

The First Reading:

Capture a word, a phrase or an image when listening to the passage.

The passage is read.

Take a moment of silence to capture a word, a phrase or an image that stood out from the passage for you.

Share your word, phrase or image.

The Second Reading:

Consider the following question while listening to the passage...

“How have you experienced God’s love endure in and around you in the past week?”

The passage is read.

Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question.

Share your reflection to the question.

The Third Reading:

Consider the following question while listening to the passage...

“What does God invite you to do, be or change through this passage?”

The passage is read.

Take a moment of silence to reflect on the question.

Share your reflection to the question.

We end this time of study with a prayer circle:

Consider and share your responses to the following questions...

I thank God today . . .

I ask God today . . .

Once we’ve finished reflecting together, we end with the Lord’s Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prayers

Loving God, as we come before you today praying in this season of Lent, we ask for your compassion and mercy. Help us turn to you so that our hearts and minds might be transformed. Hear our prayer as we pray to you.... “Forgive us, Merciful One.”

Leader For the times we have not loved you with our whole heart....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader When we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader When we have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven...

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader When we have not listened to your call in serving our brothers, sisters and siblings...

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader When we have not been kind, grateful, faithful, or compassionate...

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader When we have been envious, greedy, impatient, and arrogant....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader For the wasteful consumption of unnecessary goods and comforts....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader For our lack of spiritual presence in prayer and worship....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader For our lack of charity toward our neighbors, for prejudice and contempt toward those whom we see as “the other”....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful One.

Leader For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for caring for our common home....

Assembly Forgive us, Merciful one.

The assembly may share particular intercessions or thanksgivings.

Leader Creator of All, rekindle our love, revitalize our compassion, and renew our awareness so that we may be your healing presence in the world. Through the passion and cross of Your Son, transform us and bring us to the joy of new life.

Assembly Amen.

Prayer

Leader Loving and Merciful God, may our hands be strengthened for the work we are called to do. May our hearts always turn to You. May our eyes see Your promise. May our ears hear Your invitation to follow You. May our feet dance in Your light. Guided by the love and example of Jesus and led by the Spirit, may we transform our lives and come to know and love You more fully.

All Amen.

Going Out

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Service adapted from:

The Iona Community. (2001). *Iona Abbey Worship Book*. (92)

Eric Law and The Kaleidoscope Institute. (2014). *Gracious Leadership Training 1 Workbook*. (15)

Lenten Prayer Service by Donna Wuhler and Debbie Polley. (compiled in 2018)