



FINDING A STILL CENTRE

In the midst of our busy lives
A quiet place in the heart of our community
August 6th 2017

God's Call into relationship: That we might have life.

Music on arrival: *Gregorian Chant, 'Dirigatur' and 'Domine, Dominus Noster'*

Opening liturgy

Yes

You are the God who is simple, direct, clear with us and for us.
You have committed yourself to us.
You have said
yes to us in creation,
yes to us in our birth,
yes to us in our baptism,
yes to us in our awakening this day.

But we are of another kind,
more accustomed to "perhaps, maybe, we'll see,"
left in wonderment and ambiguity.

We live our lives not back to your yes,
But out of our endless "perhaps"

So we pray for your mercy this day that we may live yes back to you,
yes with our time,
yes with our money,
yes with our sexuality,
yes with our strength and with our weakness,
yes to our neighbour,
yes and no longer "perhaps."

In the name of your enfleshed yes to us,
even Jesus who is our yes into your future.

Amen

From, 'Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth' by Prayers of Walter Brueggemann

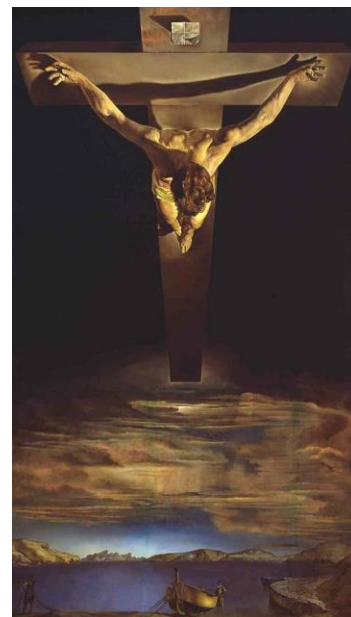
Lectio Divina: John 3:16-17a (RSV)

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Reflection on passage and time of silence:

Centering Prayer and time of silence:

Music for meditation: *The Treble Voice Choral Music of David Hamilton Vol. 4, 'A Blessing for Saint Kentigern'*



Christ of Saint John of the Cross
by Salvador Dali

Closing Prayer

When the lights are on

Leader: When the lights are on
and the house is full
and laughter is easy
and all is well...
ALL: Behold I stand at the door and knock.

Leader: When the lights are low
and the house is still
and the talk intense
and the air is full of wondering...
ALL: Behold I stand at the door and knock

Leader: When the lights are off
and the house is sad
and the voice is troubled
and nothing seems right...
ALL: Behold I stand at the door and Knock.

Leader: And tonight,
always tonight,
as if there were no other people,
no other house,
no other door...
ALL: Behold I stand at the door and knock.

Leader: Come, lord Jesus, be our guest,
Stay with us for the day is ending.
Bring to our house your poverty,
ALL: FOR THEN WE SHALL BE RICH.

Leader: Bring to our house your pain,
ALL: THAT SHARING IT WE MAY ALSO SHARE YOUR JOY.

Leader: Bring to our house your understanding of us,
ALL: THAT WE MAY BE FREED TO LEARN MORE OF YOU.

Leader: Bring to our house all those
who hurry or hobble behind you,
ALL: THAT WE MAY MEET YOU AS THE SAVIOUR OF ALL.

Leader: Bring to our house your Holy Spirit,
ALL: THAT THIS MAY BE A CRADLE OF LOVE.

Leader: With friend, with stranger,
with neighbour, and the well-known ones,
be among us tonight,
ALL: FOR THE DOORS OF OUR HOUSE WE OPEN
AND THE DOORS OF OUR HEARTS WE LEAVE AJAR.

From Iona Abbey Worship Book p173

Blessing and sending prayer:

Bless us O Christ as we go from here,
that we may walk in your way,
extraordinary in our hope,
outrageous in our trust
committed to say Yes to You and to Life,
in the faith that you will be with us for all time.
Amen



Buddha

A certain brahmin said to the Lord: "Reverend Gautama, it is as if a man were to seize someone by the hair who had stumbled and was falling into a pit, and to set him on firm ground – just so, I, who was falling into the pit, have been saved by you!"

Digha Nikaya 12.78

