



## FINDING A STILL CENTRE

In the midst of our busy lives  
A quiet place in the heart of our community  
September 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

### The Early Church in Prayer: Thy Will Be Done

**Music on arrival: Silvestri, Forrest Gump Suite**

#### Opening Prayer:

We believe in light beyond our seeing,  
flowing forth  
from the flame of life in God  
who goes on creating in us  
down through the ages of ages.  
We believe in healing beyond our knowing,  
from the Christ  
whose robe stands close  
to the reach of our hand  
and the pain of our struggle  
beyond the end of time.

We believe in the energy of God's spirit  
stirring in our being  
with a rhythm of courage and passion  
moving our feet  
to risk Christ's way again  
as those who are always called to be  
the humble witnesses  
to the faithfulness of God

**Blood Sweat and Tears, p. 74.**

#### Reading:

I'm on my knees once again.  
Awed, overwhelmed, speechless  
to think you have any interest in me:  
I already feel blessed beyond measure.  
yet I am still an unsightly lump of carbon:  
You have barely begun to carry out your work.  
Help me to yield to the hammer and chisel,  
the fire and the heat,  
trusting in you completely  
to know me through and through.

*The seed of prayer is sown in heaven  
It pushes its stem toward the earth  
and comes to grow there.  
It produces an abundance of fruit.  
Then, as it becomes seed once more,  
it thrusts it's way back to heaven.*



**Jukichi Yagi from Awakening to Prayer, Augustine  
Ichiro Okumura p.17**

<http://www.desk7.net/wallpapers.aspx?typeid=6563>

Skilfully to chip away the excesses,  
to reveal the inner fire of your creation,  
the brilliance of your presence,  
the hardness of your strength,  
uniquely, unmistakably me,  
yet unquestioningly yours.

**Cynthia Steblein Ruiz-Riquer, To the Master Crafter, from Lifting Women's Voices, Prayers to Change the World, p.304.**

### **Lectio Divina: Romans 8: 26-27 (NRSV).**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.†

### **Centering Prayer and time of silence**

### **Music for meditation: Gluck: Orfeo ed Euridice. Dance of the Blessed Spirits**

### **Closing Prayer:**

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers,  
feeding us with your word,  
and encouraging us in our meeting together.  
Take us and use us  
to love and serve you, and all people,  
in the power of your Spirit.  
Amen.

**From the Australian Prayer book, adapted.**

### **Blessing**

May God continue to create in us;  
Christ's love be incarnate in us;  
the Holy Spirit give us peace,  
and lead us into God.

May God, who offers us  
the wholeness of creation,  
the tenderness of Christ,  
and the challenge of the Holy Spirit,  
bless and direct us,  
challenge and change us,  
and keep us close.

May the generosity of God,  
the love of Jesus Christ,  
and the peace of the Holy Spirit,  
be a blessing to us and to all we meet,  
now and always,  
Amen

**Alwyn Marriage, abridged from p. 383, Lifting Women's Voices, Prayers to Change the World**



<https://interfaithspirit.org/events/featured-events/sanctuary-art-lotus2/>