



FINDING A STILL CENTRE

In the midst of our busy lives
A quiet place in the heart of our community
November 1st, 2020

Living in God's Strength - God's Presence with and for all.

Music on arrival: Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: Aria, J.S.Bach

Opening Prayer:

Living Christ,
Deep within our hearts
The fire of justice burns;
So we ask this day for inner courage
To walk in solidarity
With all who are
Betrayed, exploited ,
Driven from home,
Violated, imprisoned,
Detained without trial,
Held hostage, robbed,
Abused.

An Iona Prayer Book, p33 by Peter Millar.(Adapted)

May we stand in solidarity
with those across the world
affected by the Corona Virus
and their families,
those in isolation,
those whose livelihoods are affected
and all whose wellbeing is
compromised.
We pray for our government
May they lead us wisely and justly into
the future. Amen

Reading: Wild Geese

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting --
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver



Unclerave's Wordy Weblog-Word Press.com

Lectio Divina: Psalm 103: 6-11 (NRSV)

Context:

Psalm 103 is attributed to David, and thought to have been written when he was very old. The psalm expresses praise and gratitude. While referring to the fear of God, the emphasis of this psalm is God's goodness and forgiving love.

The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel. The LORD is merciful and
gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;



Ruth ng

Centering Prayer and time of silence

Music for meditation: Violin Concerto in A Minor, Op 3, No.6, RV 356.II. Largo, A. Vivaldi

Closing Prayer:

God, to whom do we go to discover
meaning for our lives?
God, why do those who seem to be innocent,
suffer?
God, what do I do when I can't see clearly?
God, how shall I live to live righteously?
In all these things oh God, I turn to you
I run to you and seek your embrace
Amen

Questions, adapted from "Be Still" by Nat Tait and Iain Gow, page 49

Blessing:

Bless you God who invites me to discover meaning in you;
Bless you God who invites me to discover loving from you;
Bless you God who invites me to discover
forgiveness through
you;
Bless you God who invites me to
discover a journey into
community.

Adapted from "Be Still" by Nat Tait and Iain Gow, page 49

Reflection:

We have taken that which was good
And poisoned it.
We have chosen to worship the creation
Rather than the Creator.
Earth has become an ugly corpse:
No river of fertility flows through it.
Bring new life through the cross, God
So all creation may stop its groaning
And instead sing your praise.
Amen

"Be Still" by Nat Tait and Iain Gow, page 33