



## FINDING A STILL CENTRE

In the midst of our busy lives  
A quiet place in the heart of our community  
December 6th 2020

### Living in God's Strength – The Light of Christ

**Music on arrival:** Piano Sonata No.14 in C sharp minor, Op 27, No.2, Adagio (Moonlight) by Beethoven

#### Opening Prayer: Horizons

Morning star  
let there be light.

Between the leaves  
let there be light.

Children's faces  
let there be light.

On the horizon  
let there be light.

Arc of rainbow  
let there be light.

Candle at window  
let there be light.



Photo by Liz

'Firesong' by Anne Powell. p52

#### Reading: Little Lights

Jesus spoke of little lights, candles, lamps,  
not great bonfires, just small steady flames  
to brighten some dark corner of the house.  
Come to think of it, Jesus always preached little-  
children, flowers, sparrows, the widow's mite,  
mustard seeds, loaves and fishes. He didn't  
expect people to make great gestures.  
I guess he knew that little is the currency  
of every day living.

So let's thank God for little lights,  
the warm smile, the hug, the phone call,  
a wave from a passing car, a cup of tea,  
an open door, a talent freely shared.  
How often, when my own candle has gone out,  
has someone relit it from their lamp of kindness.  
That can't happen with a big light.  
I mean, how close can you get  
to a supernova?

'Psalms for the Road' by Joy Cowley. P27

## Lectio Divina: John 8:12, NRSV and Matthew 5:14-16 NRSV

**Context:** *The Matthew passage is part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus has just begun his ministry in Galilee proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven. He has also called his first disciples and it is to them that he directs this Sermon. In this particular passage he is illustrating the difference the disciples' lives can make in the world. The passage in John assures us it is not our work that provides the light but as his disciples we reflect his light. The same light that is in Christ shines forth from within us, bringing light to the world.*

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

## Centering Prayer and time of silence

### Music for meditation: O nata lux by Tallis

We invite you to come forward and light a candle while listening to the music

### Closing Prayer:

Christ, as a light  
Illumine and guide me.  
Christ, as a shield  
Overshadow me.

Christ under me;  
Christ over me;  
Christ beside me;  
On my left and my right.

Attributed to Saint Patrick, bishop of Ireland, 5th century.

This day be within and without me,  
Lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.  
Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;  
In the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me,  
Lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;  
Christ as a shield;  
Christ beside me;  
On my left and my right.

### Blessing:

Bless to us, Oh God,  
The moon that is above us,  
The earth that is beneath us,  
The friends who are around us,  
Your image deep within us,

Amen

Iona Abbey Worship Book P134

#### Reflection:

Holy Spirit,  
dwell in me  
that your light may shine through me,  
and that in my heart  
you may find your home  
and endless dwelling.

Adapted from Julian of Norwich in  
'Awakening the spirit' P93



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