

***Contemplative Noonday Prayer
& Scriptural Reflection*** June 22, 2022

St.Columba's Episcopal Church, Inverness, CA

St. Meriadoc, Bishop of Vannes



Died 688 A.D

Mother Teri: O God, make speed to save us.

Assistant: O Lord, make haste to help us.

+ Glory to You O Eternal Source,
Divine Savior, and Holy Spirit:

*As it was in the beginning is now
and will be forever. Amen*

Mother Teri: The Collect

O God, who roars like a fiery lion; we ask for your voice to awaken and move us, and the Holy Wisdom of Sophia to guide us, so that we actively show to the world what you speak in our hearts. In your name we pray. Amen.

(6/15/22), Noonday Prayer Group

*Please join by repeating lines in **bold italics** at home on mute.*

Mother Teri: Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint;

Assistant : *preserve my life from the dread enemy.*

Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked,

from the scheming of evildoers,

who whet their tongues like swords,

who aim bitter words like arrows,

shooting from ambush at the blameless;

they shoot suddenly and without fear.

They hold fast to their evil purpose;

they talk of laying snares secretly,

thinking, 'Who can see us?

Who can search out our crimes?

We have thought out a cunningly conceived plot.'

For the human heart and mind are deep.

But God will shoot his arrow at them;

they will be wounded suddenly.

Because of their tongue he will bring them to ruin;

all who see them will shake with horror.

Then everyone will fear;

they will tell what God has brought about,

and ponder what he has done.

Let the righteous rejoice in the LORD

and take refuge in him.

Let all the upright in heart glory.

Mother Teri + Glory to You O Eternal Source,
Divine Savior, and Holy Spirit:

Assistant: *As it was in the beginning is now
and will be forever. Amen*

Mother Teri:

A reading from the Gospel of Luke 9:37-43 NRSV

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It

throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.’ Jesus answered, ‘You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.’ While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

Mother Teri: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Assistant: Thanks be to God.

Celtic Contemplation: 15 minutes

“You can trust us to stick to you through thick and thin—to the bitter end. And you can trust us to keep any secret of yours—closer than you keep it yourself. But you cannot trust us to let you face trouble alone, and go off without a word.”

-Meriadoc Brandybuck

--J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

*Please follow along and chant the Kyrie with us while on mute.
We will chant 3x through.*

Assistant/ Mother Teri & All

Kyrie Eleison (*Kyrie Eleison*)
Christe Eleison (*Christe Eleison*)
Kyrie (*Kyrie*), Christe (*Christe*)
Eleison (*Eleison*)

Mother Teri: Please join now in praying as Jesus taught...

(ALL) Our Father in heaven,
*hallowed be your Name, Your
kingdom come, Your will be done, on
earth as in heaven. Give us today our
daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us. Save
us from the time of trial, and deliver
us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours, now
and for ever. Amen.*



Assistant: Lord, hear our prayer;
Mother Teri: *And let our cry come to you.*

Let us pray, using words from the *Ita Compline*¹

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

Test me and know my thoughts.

Keep Your people, Lord, in the arms of Your embrace.

Shelter them under Your wings.

Assistant: For whom and what else do we pray?

Please offer your intercessions here, aloud or silently.

Prayers given aloud are followed with:

Mother Teri: We pray to the Lord

Assistant: *Lord, hear our prayer*

Continuing after personal intercessions with...

Be their light in darkness.

Be their hope in distress.

Be their calm in anxiety.

Be strength in their weakness.

Be their comfort in pain.

Be their song in the night.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹ excerpted from the *Ita Compline*, Northumbria Community.



*Please remain for discussion
on today's topic and scriptural reading.*

St. Meriadoc, Bishop of Vannes

Died c. 688.

“Poverty is a remover of cares and the mother of holiness.”

-- Saint Meriadoc.

Meriadoc, though venerated especially in Cornwall and Brittany, was probably a Welshman who lived in the 5th or 6th century. He came to Cornwall and founded several churches, one of which at Camborne was once dedicated to him. He became renowned in these parts and a miracle play in Cornish still survives, recounting his legendary exploits.

He then crossed over into Brittany, where his memory is still strong. In the 16th-century church at Plougasnou is a reliquary containing what may well be part of Meriadoc's skull. At Stival is preserved what is believed to be his bell. Placed on the heads of the deaf and those suffering migraine, it is said to heal them. Some documents state that Meriadoc even became bishop of Vannes at a time when it was one of the most important cities of Brittany.

Meriadoc had been a rich man. Before becoming a hermit he gave all his money to poor clerics, distributing his lands to the needy. So great became his reputation for sanctity that he feared he would become vain and retired even further from the world.

Instead of the silks and purple that he once wore, Meriadoc now dressed in rags, eating simple food, living in complete poverty.

When his relatives tried to make him leave his new life and return to the world, he told the viscount of Rohan who had

come with these relatives that he would be better engaged extirpating the thieves and robbers of the neighbourhood. The viscount took the saint at his word, and a great evil was removed from Brittany.

Although Meriadoc was unanimously elected bishop of Vannes, he took the bishopric reluctantly. After his consecration he continued a life of abstinence and love for the poor. He died kissing his brethren and crying, Into your hands, Lord, I commend my Spirit. <https://celticsaints.org/2022/0607b.html>



Scriptural Study

Psalm 48. NRSV

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God.
His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great King.
Within its citadels God
has shown himself a sure defence.

Then the kings assembled,
they came on together.
As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
they were in panic, they took to flight;
trembling took hold of them there,
pains as of a woman in labour,
as when an east wind shatters
the ships of Tarshish.
As we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the Lord of hosts,
in the city of our God,
which God establishes for ever.

Selah

We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
in the midst of your temple.
Your name, O God, like your praise,
reaches to the ends of the earth.

Your right hand is filled with victory.

Let Mount Zion be glad,
let the towns of Judah rejoice
because of your judgements.

Walk about Zion, go all around it,
count its towers,
consider well its ramparts;
go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation
that this is God,
our God for ever and ever.
He will be our guide for ever.

Luke 1:26-38 NRSV

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a

virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.