

-
September 3, 2026



St. Columba's Evensong Candle Light Evening Prayer Circle

Céad Mìle Fàilte! Welcome!

*You are invited to light a candle and join in all of the songs,
but please remain muted except when you are reading or voicing a prayer.*



John:

Most Holy Creator, open our hearts to peace and healing of all people.

Open our hearts to protect and provide for all children of the earth.

Open our hearts to respect for the earth, and all the gifts of the earth.

Open our hearts to end exclusion, violence, and fear among all.

*Thank you for the gifts of this day and every day. **Amen.** *Mi'Kmaq Prayer**

Ann: The Holy One is in our midst.

(All) O come, let us worship.

Ann: Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

Psalm 70:1, 4

(All) O God, make haste to help me!

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you!

May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

Let our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting
up of our hands as the evening sacrifice.

Psalm 141:2

(All) *O Gracious Light ~ Phos hilaron*

1. O gra - cious Light, pure bright-ness of the ev - er - liv - ing
Fa - ther in heaven, O Je - sus Christ, ho - ly and
bless - ed! 2. Now as we come to the set - ting of the
sun, and our eyes be - hold the ves - per light, we sing your
prais - es, O God: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit.

The musical score is written on five staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first line of the score corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and so on. The second line of the score includes a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) for the second verse.

Music setting: McNeil Robinson II, *The Hymnal 1982*

Bev: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.
The LORD will not let your foot be moved
and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel shall neither
slumber nor sleep.

It is the LORD who watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;
the LORD shall keep you safe.
The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore. **Amen.**

Psalm 121



(All) O Beauty Ever Ancient



1. O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,
2. O beau - ty in cre - a - tion, in world of sound and sight,
3. O beau - ty of the Spi - rit, where love is shin - ing through,



di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,
O beau - ty in the si - lence, in dark - ness as in light,
O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,



in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship, my be - ing sings to you!
in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship, my be - ing sings to you!
in gra - ti - tude, in wor - ship, my be - ing sings to you!

Text: Shirley Erena Nurray, 2000 Reprint permission: OneLicense #A-727808
Tune adapted from *Adoro devote*, AMCY

Katherine: Holy God, whose Spirit hovered over the waters at the beginning, we gather as part of your community of all creation, thirsty for your grace. We give thanks for the gift of water, the veins of our common home, that sustains the cedar and the whale, the pasture and the city. We are grateful for the local waters that nourish our homelands and our fellow creatures. We give thanks that in your well-watered garden, every drop is a sacred testament to your love. **Amen.**

Bill: Yet, we confess that we have treated this gift as a mere commodity. We have choked the seas with our waste and watched the warming tides rise in judgment. We lament the cracked earth of the drought-stricken and the salty tears of the climate refugee. Melt our frozen hearts, O God, and let the waters of repentance flow. **Amen.**

Meredith: Lord of all Life, you promised that wherever the river flows, everything shall live. Stir in us a calling to care for the waters — to protect the watershed, defend the rights of water, and honor the dignity of the thirsty. May your Word be a spring within us, gushing forth for the healing of the nations. **Amen.**

Bev: May God our Father who brought water from the rock sustain us in the desert. May Christ our Lord who is Living Water refresh us for the work of restoration. And may the Holy Spirit carry us on currents of grace until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. **Amen.**

Season of Creation Celebration Guide, 2026

(All) Come to the Waters

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 2/2. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'Come to the wa - ters, flow - ing, clear,'. The second staff contains 'fount where new life a - bounds.' The third staff contains 'Live by the Spir - it; do not fear.' The fourth staff contains 'God is here; love sur-rounds.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

Come to the wa - ters, flow - ing, clear,
fount where new life a - bounds.
Live by the Spir - it; do not fear.
God is here; love sur-rounds.

Words: Ruth Cunningham, Tune: Lori True.

Katherine: Oh, let me see with his eyes from now on,
Whose gaze on beauty makes it beautiful,
Who looks us into love and looks upon

His whole creation with a merciful
And loving eye. My heart has said of him:
Seek out his face. I've sensed his bountiful

Presence shimmering behind the dim
Veil of things. That presence calls to me,
Calls me to tremble at the brink and rim

Of lived experience, and then to free
Myself of fear, to trust him, and to dive
Right off that brink, into his mystery,

Into that deep and holy sea of love
In which the living worlds all float and swim,
To dare each moment's death, that I might live. *Amen.*

Psalm 27: XXVII Dominus illuminato, David's Crown, Malcolm Guite



Pause in silence

John:

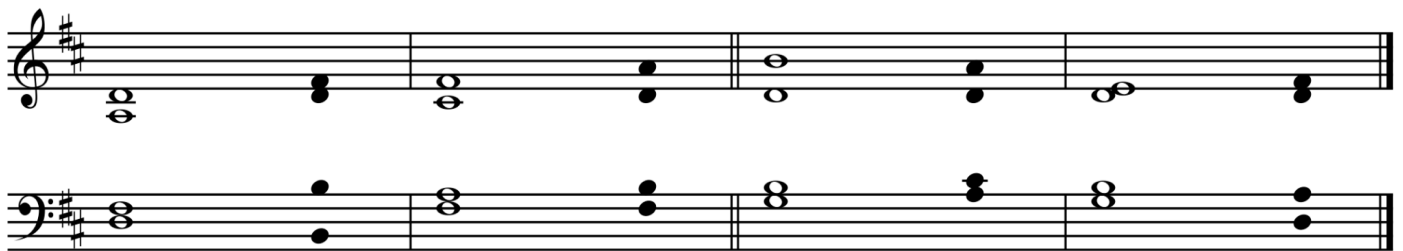
LORD of all love and glory, the author and giver of all good things:
Graft in our hearts the love of your Creation;
increase in all true unity;
nourish the world with all goodness:
and bring forth the fruit of good works;
through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. *Amen.*

Season of Creation 2024

PSALM 104 *Benedic, anima mea*



- 1 Bless the LORD, O my /soul; *
O LORD my God, how excellent is your greatness! —
you are clothed with majesty and /splendor.
- 2 You wrap yourself with light as with a /cloak *
and spread out the heavens like a /curtain.

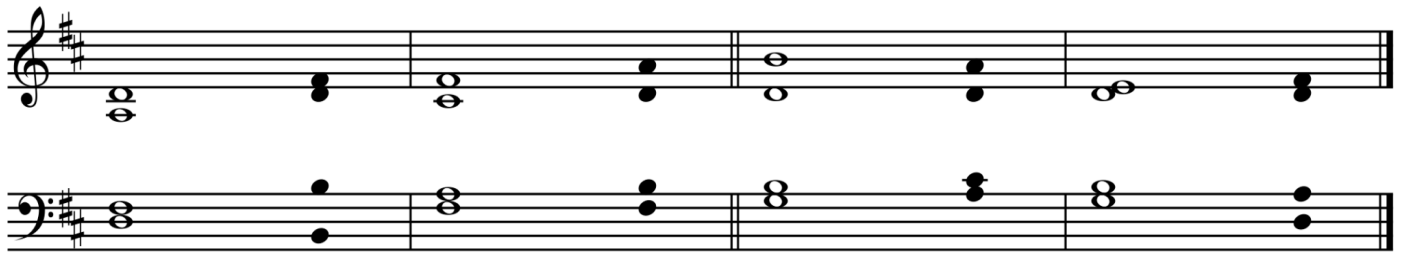


- 3 You lay the beams of your chambers in the waters a/bove; *
you make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the /wind.
- 4 You make the winds your /messengers *
and flames of fire your /servants.
- 5 You have set the earth upon its foun/dations, *
so that it never shall move at any /time.
- 6 You covered it with the Deep as with a /mantle; *
the waters stood higher than the /mountains.
- 7 At your rebuke they /fled; *
at the voice of your thunder they hastened a/way.

8 They went up into the hills and down to the valleys be/neath, *
to the places you had appointed /for them.

9 You set the limits that they should not /pass; *
they shall not again cover the /earth.

10 You send the springs into the /valleys; *
they flow between the /mountains.



11 All the beasts of the field drink their /fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their /thirst.

12 Beside them the birds of the air make their /nests *
and sing among the /branches.

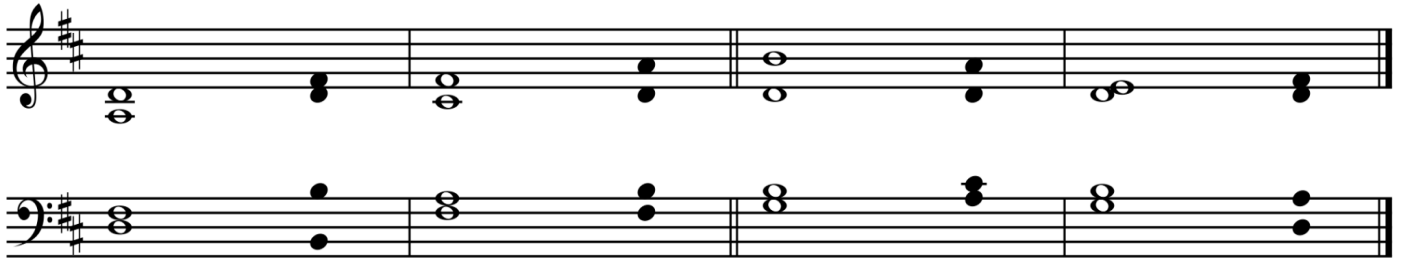
13 You water the mountains from your dwelling on /high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your /works.

14 You make grass grow for flocks and /herds *
and plants to serve human/kind;

15 That they may bring forth food from the /earth, *
and wine to gladden our /hearts,

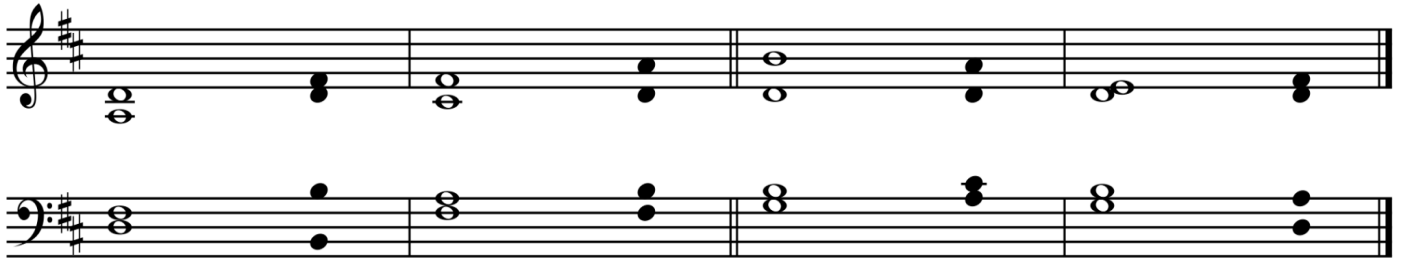
16 Oil to make a cheerful /countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the /heart.

Continue →



- 17 The trees of the LORD are full of /sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which he /planted,
18 In which the birds build their /nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes his /dwelling.

- 19 The high hills are a refuge for the /mountain goats, *
and the stony cliffs for the /rock badgers.
20 You appointed the moon to mark the /seasons, *
and the sun knows the time of its /setting.



- 25 O LORD, how manifold are your /works! *
in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your /creatures.
26 Yonder is the great and wide sea, —
with its living things too many to /number, *
creatures both small and /great.

- 31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are cre/ated; *
and so you renew the face of the /earth.
32 May the glory of the LORD endure for /ever; *
may the LORD rejoice in all his /works.

Continue →

34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I /live; *
I will praise my God while I have my /being.
37 Bless the LORD, O my /soul. *
Halle/lujah!

Chant tone: Robert Knox Kennedy



Bill: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,*
according to John (4:1-15)
(All) *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Bill: Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, “Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John”—although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

Meredith: A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who

it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her,

Bill: “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

May the words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

(All) *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

(All:)



Come, drink_ of liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er thirst_ a - gain.

The musical score for the first line is written for a two-part setting in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily composed of half notes and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



Al - le, _____ al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu _____ ia.

The musical score for the second line continues the two-part setting. It features a mix of half notes, quarter notes, and rests. The lyrics 'Al - le, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia.' are written below the notes, with long horizontal lines indicating extended notes or breath marks.

Eric Wyse, Vine Ridge Music, ad. AMCY



*Silent contemplative prayer ~ 9 minutes
in memory of George Floyd,
and all who cry out for mercy, justice, and peace;
for light and healing in our lives and for the earth.
Let us pray for our nation, and all nations:
for peace among people,
for cooperation and understanding,
for wisdom and justice in our leaders,
and for an end to the greed and complacency which prevent us
from undoing the harm humankind has brought on earth.
We remember all who have died from natural disasters
due to climate change, especially the people of Nepal.*



Ann: Let us share our own prayers and thanksgivings,
and pray for the needs of the world.

All are invited to voice your own prayers (unmuted).

*Our response: **O Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.***

Ann: Now let us pray together:

John (All):

Eternal Spirit,

Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God in whom is heaven:

May the hallowing of your name echo throughout the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by all the people of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the harm we cause one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and stress, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

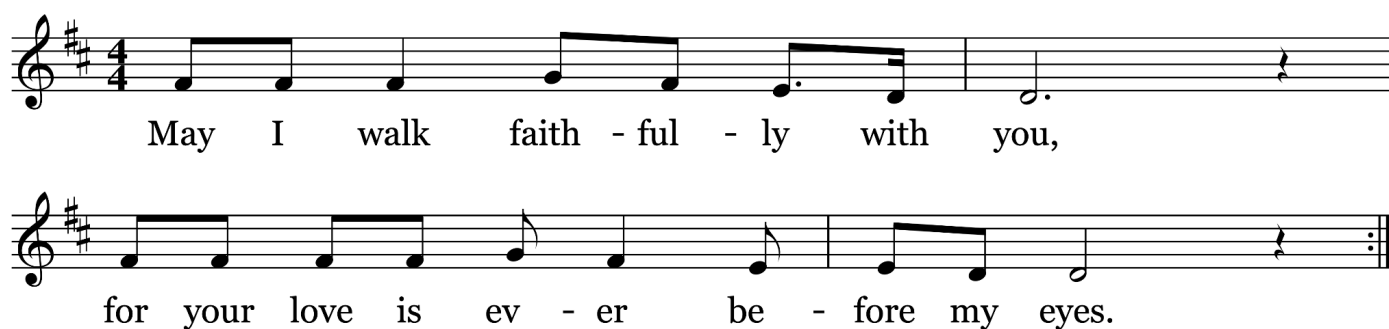
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love,

now and forever. **Amen.**

New Zealand Lord's Prayer, paraphrase by Jim Cotter

(All) May I Walk Faithfully with You



Red Lake Mass, Monte Mason, Francis Densmore, ad. AMCY

(All) Streams of Living Water



John: *I saw water flowing from the right side of the temple.*

The water brought God's life and God's salvation.

And all the people laughed and danced and sang their joyful praises:

"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!"

Cyprian Consiglio, OSB.

Meredith: Awaken me from my fears, O my Beloved,
give me strength to face them as they rise up within me.
Let your Love envelop me,
and direct my thoughts to peaceful paths.
Where I have erred in thought and spoken in anger,
where I have acted without love, I ask forgiveness.

Bill: Rouse yourself, come to my aid, heed my cry!
For you are the Compassionate One, Comforter to all who ask.
You come to those who seek You;
O Mender of broken hearts, create a new heart within me.
O my Strength, I will sing praises to You,
for You are my Rock.

Bev At night I will rest in the Heart of the Beloved,
my days will be guided by Love.
My thoughts will become prayers offered from the Silence deep within,
for You have been my refuge in the days of my distress.
I sing my songs of love to You, for You,
O Beloved, have renewed my life;
You have set me free to live with gratitude and joy! **Amen.**

From Psalm 59, Psalms for Praying, Nan C. Merrill

Come to the Water



1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the
 2. And let all who seek, let them come to the
 3. And let all who toil, let them come to the
 4. And let all the poor, let them come to the



wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
 wa - ter. And let all who have noth - ing,
 wa - ter. And let all who are wea - ry,
 wa - ter. Bring the ones who are lad - en,



let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
 let them come to the Lord: With-out mon-ey,
 let them come to the Lord: All who la - bor,
 bring them all to the Lord: Bring the chil - dren



with-out price. Why should you pay the price,
 with-out strife. Why should you spend your life,
 with-out rest. How can your soul find rest,
 with-out might. Eas - y the load and light:



ex - cept for the Lord?
 ex - cept for the Lord?
 ex - cept for the Lord?
 7 come to the Lord.

Text: Isaiah 55:1, 2, Matthew 11:28-30, John Foley, SJ, b.1939
 Tune: John Foley, b. 1939. Reprint permission: OneLicense #A-727808

John: Almighty God, who created us in your image: Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Book of Common Prayer

Bill: O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Book of Common Prayer

Meredith: Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, *
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep; *
you save both man and beast, O LORD.
How priceless is your love, O God! *
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
They feast upon the abundance of your house; *
you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the well of life, *
and in your light we see light.
Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, *
and your favor to those who are true of heart. **Amen.**

Psalm 36:5-10

(All) Benediction

Canticle 16, Benedictus: Luke 1:78-79



- 9 In the tender compassion of our /God *
the dawn from on high shall break up/on us,
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of /death,*
and to guide our feet into the way of /peace.

2nd half:

- 11 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy /Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A/men.

Chant tone: Robert Knox Kennedy

Katherine:

O Lord, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen,
and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed,

and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.

Then, in your great mercy, grant us a safe lodging,

and a holy rest, and peace at the last. **Amen.**

Cardinal John Henry Newman

(All) Nunc Dimittis

Now in peace, O God, let your ser - vant go.

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - - le - - lu - - ia!

For my eyes have seen your sal - va - - tion;

Al - - le - - lu - - ia, Al - le - lu - - ia!

Suzanne Toolan

(All) Dismissal ~

And now, may God's deep blessing abide upon us,

as we go forth in the peace of Christ,

carrying Christ's light, love, and hope into the world.

Thanks be to God!

Alleluia! Amen!



Thank you for coming together in prayer tonight!
*We will meet again next month on Thursday, **October 1.***



*Permission to print / podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from
ONE LICENSE with license #A-727808. All rights reserved.
Ann McChesney-Young ~ annmccy@gmail.com*