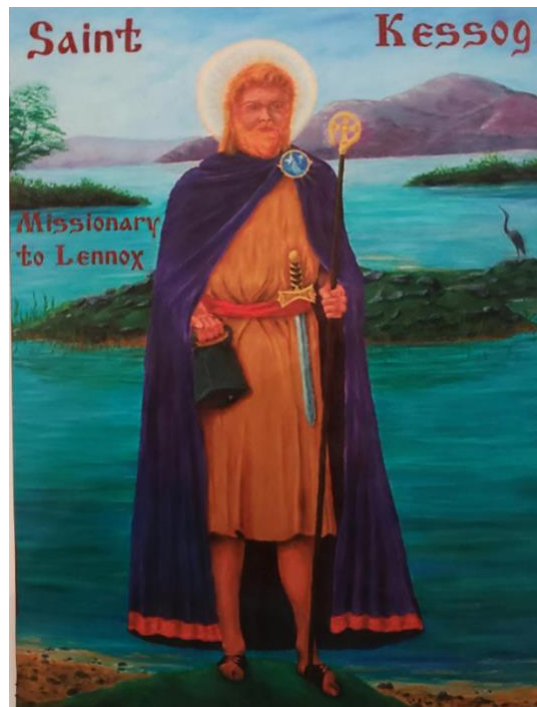


Contemplative Noonday Prayer & Scriptural Reflection March 10. 2021

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Inverness, CA

St. Kessog of Lennox,



Bishop & Martyr

Died c. 560

Please respond to any parts labeled "Assistant & All" with your microphone set on mute.

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

Assistant & ALL: O Lord, make haste to help us.

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

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

Mother Teri: The Collect

O God who created Wisdom in the beginning to stand with us; at this current crossroad we ask understanding, patience and courage for all peoples of our world, especially those who lead us, so that our planet may be healed through your grace which flows through each of us; in your Name we pray, Amen. (1/27/21, Noonday Prayer Group)

PSALM 84: 1-9 (NRSV)

Mother Teri: How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

Assistant & All: *My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the LORD;*

My heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

***Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,***

where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house,

ever singing your praise.

Selah

Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

As they go through the valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.
They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!

Selah

Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.

+ 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::

A reading from *the Gospel According to Mark* (11:15-19, NRSV)

Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves; and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. He was teaching and saying, ‘Is it not written, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations”?’

But you have made it a den of robbers.’

And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

Mother Teri: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Assistant & All: *Thanks be to God.*

Celtic Contemplation: 15 minutes

Please sit comfortably and close your eyes for 15 minutes of silent meditation. Chimes will sound to begin and end the time. For today’s reflection:

“Even the sparrow finds a home”

~ Ps 84 (NRSV)

Please follow along and recite the Kyrie with us while on mute..

Mother Teri / Assistant & All

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

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

God of compassion,
teach us how to embody your love

God of faithfulness
help us to be constant in service

God of creation
give us compassion for all your children

God of blessing
hear our prayers¹

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*

Continue after personal intercessions with...

¹ Daily Prayer for All Seasons, p. 13

Mother Teri: *God of love*
Assistant & All: *draw our hearts to you*²

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.*³

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

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.

Deacon Ari: Let us bless the Lord.
[Mother Teri & All] *Thanks be to God.*

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

² Daily Prayer for All Seasons, p. 13

³ excerpted from the Ita Compline, Northumbria Community.

**St. Kessog of Lennox, Bishop & Martyr
(Mackessog)**

Died c. 560

Saint Kessog was an Irish missionary of the mid-sixth century active in the Lennox area and southern Perthshire. Son of the king of Cashel in Ireland, Kessog is said to have worked miracles, even as a child. He left Ireland and became a missionary bishop in Scotland. Using Monks' Island in Loch Lomond as his headquarters, he evangelized the surrounding area until he was martyred, supposedly at Bandry, where a heap of stones was known as *St Kessog's Cairn*. Kessog was killed in 520 AD.

The St Kessog's church in Luss on the banks of Loch Lomond is named after Kessog and the church contains an effigy of the saint. Kessog is claimed to have brought Christianity to the area around Luss in 510 AD and 1500 years of continuous Christian presence in the area was celebrated in 2010.

Elsewhere in Scotland, the medieval parish churches of Auchterarder and Comrie, both in Perthshire, were dedicated to Kessog, and may have been founded by him or one of his followers. A 19th century church in Callander is named St Kessog's and a nearby circular mound by the River Teith is named in pseudo-Gaelic as "Tom na Chessaig", meaning "the Hill of Kessog".

The Kessock area of Inverness is named after the saint, as is the Kessog oil field in the North Sea.

(WIKIPEDIA)

Scriptural Study

Psalm 84 (NRSV)

To the leader: according to The Gittith. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

² My soul longs, indeed it faints

for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh sing for joy

to the living God.

³ Even the sparrow finds a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts,

my King and my God.

⁴ Happy are those who live in your house,

ever singing your praise.

Selah

⁵ Happy are those whose strength is in you,

in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

⁶ As they go through the valley of Baca

they make it a place of springs;

the early rain also covers it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength;

the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸ O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;

give ear, O God of Jacob!

Selah

⁹ Behold our shield, O God;

look on the face of your anointed.

Mark 11:15-19 (NRSV)

15Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves; ¹⁶and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. ¹⁷He was teaching and saying, ‘Is it not written, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations”?’

But you have made it a den of robbers.’

¹⁸And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. ¹⁹And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

