

THURSDAY, 9th July 2020 - COMBINED COMPLINE: Trusting Christ on the deep

(Lighted candle)

Song: Life is an ocean and love is a boat (Christy Moore)

Listen to this introductory song and think about it in relation to making life's journey with our Lord on the seas of life

The angels of God guard us through the night,

And quieten the powers of darkness

The Spirit of God be our guide

To lead us to peace and to glory.

Christ of the mysteries, can I trust you on the sea?

King of the mysteries, angels will watch over me, when I trust Christ on the sea.

Silence

My brothers and sisters,

Our help is in the name of the eternal God

Who is making the heavens and the earth.

Dear God, give us the courage to leave the familiar

And to journey with Christ into unknown waters.

We thank you for all that is good and the stewardship you give us of earth and ocean,

For the gifts of life and of one another, for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

O most holy and beloved,

Our Companion, our Guide upon the waters, our bright Evening Star.

We repent the wrongs we have done.

We have wounded your love.

O God, heal us and guide us into the unknown.

We stumble in the darkness and sink in the waves.

Christ of the storms, bring calm, and transfigure us.

Eternal Spirit, living God,

In whom we live and move and have our being,

We thank you we are travellers and strangers in the world, like so many of your people before us.

Lord, help us to grow in sense of adventure, and openness to possibilities.

The sea takes us where we do not know, but we gladly go.

We can only trust every word you say, Lord, and obey.

Through the unknown, help us, Lord,

For our times are in your hand.

Give us the faith to leave old ways,

And break fresh ground with you.

Let us worship the God Who stills the storms.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Psalm 93 ... read by one of those present

EVENING HYMN

Before the ending of the day,

Creator of the world we pray

That you with love and lasting light

Would guard us through the hours of night.

O wisest Guide, grant all we ask,

Fulfil in us your holy task,

Surround us with your love and care,

And lead us on, your life to share.

All praise to God, sustaining us,

Redeeming and transforming us;

Thanksgiving in eternity;

All praise, beloved Trinity.

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,

For you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.

Keep me, O God, as the apple of your eye;

Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Preserve us, O God, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,

That awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep may rest in your peace.

(NUNC DIMITTIS / SONG OF SIMEON)

Praise be to God, I have lived to see this day.

God's promise is fulfilled, and my duty done.

At last you have given me peace,

For I have seen with my own eyes

The salvation you have prepared for all nations –

A light to the world in its darkness, and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,

As in the beginning, so now and for ever. Amen.

Prayers and intercessions (all may pray briefly/name names to pray for)

The Lord's Prayer – traditional version

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,

For it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.

Let us bless the earth-maker, the ocean-master, the Life-giver,

Let us praise and exalt God above all forever.

May God's name be praised beyond the furthest star,

Glorified and exalted above all for ever.

Lord, it is night. The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray.

Amen

God is our Pilot through life; we look forward to seeing His face fully one day.

Listen to "Sunset and Evening Star" - words by Alfred, Lord Tennyson – sung by Resound Choir, a Cambridge–linked group

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

BLESSING:

The blessing of God, the eternal goodwill of God, the shalom of God, the wildness and warmth of God, be among us and between us, now and always.

Amen

(adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book and "Brendan : a call to risky living" in *Celtic Daily Prayer* - Northumbria Community)