



May we all be  
one

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

*Intro music: Adoramus te, domine (Taize)*

This is the time when light fades  
and shadows lengthen and sounds are subdued  
– all as God intended.

**Amen.**

This is the time when bodies relax,  
minds unwind, and tiredness comes  
– all as God intended.

**Amen**

This is the time when others greet the morning  
while we meet the night,  
and the world continues to sing,  
in all the accents of creation,  
a love-song to its Maker.

**Blessed be God's Name.**

*Silence*

*It takes time to become 'collected', even within ourselves. By focussing our attention on these words, 'Jesus, we are here for you' allow our bodies, minds and spirit to be united in worship to God.*

Jesus you have drawn us here,  
**From different homes  
and from different backgrounds,  
to unite us in your love.**

Lord, we acknowledge  
**That in many ways our lives lack unity.  
Between the ideals and the pressures  
there is compromise;**

**between the dreams and the realities  
there are frustrations;  
between the belief and the expression  
there is misunderstanding and conflict.**

So, Lord we turn to you to unite us:

**To whom else could we go?  
You alone have the words of eternal life!  
As we centre our lives on you,  
melt our divisions and make us one.**

O Lord, your tenderness

*Silence*

In the world many things happen at night:  
people travel, people meet,  
people have secret conversations,  
people lie awake restless,  
people sleep through exhaustion.  
And this has always been so;  
so let us hear a night story from the Bible.

**Reading: John 17.11b-23**

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Music: Laudate Dominum (Monteverdi)**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray together.  
For the millions, all over the world, who have come to know Jesus as  
Lord

*Silence*

**May we all be one,  
as you and the Father are one**

For the leaders and pastors of the different churches;

*Silence*

**May we all be one,  
as you and the Father are one**

We thank you for the joy of worshipping together,  
And the privilege of serving our Lord

*Silence*

**May we all be one,  
as you and the Father are one**

We offer you every opportunity for praying and  
Working together, so that you can use us for your glory

*Silence*

**May we all be one,  
as you and the Father are one**

By your arms outstretched in love for us on the cross,  
**draw us to love and forgive one another.**  
**Draw us to be less thrown by our difference,**

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**and more encouraged by what we hold in common.**

Breathe through us, Holy Spirit,  
**Renew us and revive us,  
until all people come to worship you.**  
**Amen**

What if the darkness covers us and the day around us turns to night?  
Darkness is not too dark for God to whom dark and light are one.

Let us pray

You never sleep, God.  
You are always awake, always watching, always willing the world and its  
people to turn in the right direction.

So tonight, will you comfort those who cannot sleep because of illness, or  
worry, or fear; or for reasons they cannot understand.

(pause)

God be near them.  
**God be near them.**

And tonight, will you be close to those who wait patiently or impatiently  
for a birth or a death, for a visit, or for the pieces of their life's jigsaw to  
fit together.

(pause)

God be near them.  
**God be near them.**

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And tonight, will you be close to those who wonder, who look for inspiration, who long to be with the one or the ones they love, who hope to recognise the right time when they can say 'I'm sorry,' or 'I love you,' or even 'Enough is enough.'

(pause)

God be near them.

**God be near them.**

And God, listen to us as we share with you whatever joys or sorrows, discoveries or questions we will take with us into the night.

(pause)

God be near us,

**God be near us.**

Into your hands we commit ourselves – our souls, our bodies, our minds, our futures – for all things come from you and are best kept in your care.

**Amen**

### **Closing responses**

For the day now done

**Thanks be to God.**

For the rest before us

**Thanks be to God.**

Because God never sleeps so that we can,

**Thanks be to God.**

But before the day is done,

let God's holy name be praised;

and let God's people say Amen.

**Amen.**

***Closing music: Laudate Dominum (Vivaldi)***

*Sources: IONA Community, & Reflective Services (Susan Sayers)*