

CELTIC EVENING PRAYER
TIDES AND SEASONS



Perranuthnoe Slip

HIGH TIDE

OPENING PRAYER

You, Lord, are in this place,
your presence fills it.

Your presence is Peace.

You, Lord, are in my heart,
your presence fills it.

Your presence is Peace.

You, Lord, are in my mind,
your presence fills it.

Your presence is Peace.

**Help us, O Lord, to know that we dwell in you
and you dwell in us, this day and for evermore.**

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 5 : 1-11

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."

When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.



Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

HIGH TIDE

At high tide, there is a great depth to be explored, not just a surface to be skimmed. We are not called to just be inshore sailors, but to launch out and explore the mysteries of the depths. We approach the great mystery of God through the deep mysteries of his Creation - through a reverence for and a respect of the world in which we live. High tide in particular, is a time of love in all its fullness. If we do not love Creation, how can we say we love its Creator? Some good advice on our approach to life in its fullness comes from Dostoevsky in 'The Brothers Karamazov' : 'Love all God's Creation - the whole of it, every

grain of sand. Love every leaf, every ray of light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love each thing, you will perceive the mystery of God in all. Once you perceive this you will begin to understand it better every day and you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love.

(This passage from Dostoevsky is perfectly reflective of the Celtic reverence for Creation.)



REFLECTION

‘Launch out into the deep’. Jesus wants the fishermen to be in deep waters. He knows that big catches are not in these shallows. Peter wanted to object, but he also wanted to plumb new depths, so he obeyed. Here was a catch like never before; though the fishermen were not quite sure who was catching what or whom. All Peter knew was that they had entered the deep with Jesus and their lives would never be the same again. Peter knew that when they came to land, they were caught. See what new depths they enter as they leave all behind and follow Him.

While we are doing our routine work, He comes.

While we are mending our nets or our cars, He comes.

While the very life we seek is slipping through our fingers, He comes.

When we toil all night and catch nothing, He comes.

And every time He comes, He calls.

He calls us today and every day :

‘Put out a little from the land.’ Do not be earth bound or desk bound. Begin to learn ‘the glorious liberty of the children of God’. Move out from the crowd and noise each day, so that you may have a little space around you. So that you may know He is in your boat, your house, your life. If you do not do this, you are hardly ready for the next call : ‘Launch out into the deep.’ Learn to live in the deep, with a deeper awareness of the world, your neighbour and your God. Let us learn to move from the superficial to the deep. Life is not meant to be a perpetual game of trivial pursuits. It is far more glorious than that.

PRAYERS FOR OUR WORLD



Loving Lord, draw us down into the depths of your love for us.

As we rise to the surface, may we bring our love for others into this broken world.

Loving Lord, we thank you for the glory of Creation and your desire to reveal yourself through its diversity and magnificence. We thank you for all your creatures, filled with your presence and tender love. Teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe. All things speak of you. Show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all you have created.

*Lord of the deep ... **Hear our prayer***

In that love, we place into your hands all who are victims – of famine, disease, conflict, poverty, cruelty and abuse. We remember the thousands of children throughout the world without a home, without a family - forced to live in danger on the streets. Lord, protect them and dismantle the political and social structures that support such suffering. Dismantle the disposition of the human heart that allows it.

*Lord of the deep **Hear our prayer***

Loving Lord, we pray for your Church worldwide, praising your name in hundreds of languages on all continents. Praising your name in freedom and in adversity. Praising your name at home or in our re-opened church buildings. We thank you for the churches of the Mount's Bay Benefice and for all that has been accomplished in this place over the years in the building of your Kingdom. We pray for its continuing mission, as we discover and negotiate new ways of serving our communities and bringing your love into the world.

*Lord of the deep **Hear our prayer***

Loving Lord, we continue to pray that people will be mindful of the safety of others, show consideration for the communities and environments they encounter. We pray for all NHS staff, the emergency services, carers, lifeguards and all working for the well being of others, that their safety will not be compromised by the behaviour of others.

*Lord of the deep ... **Hear our prayer***

Loving Lord, we pray for all who are ill and those who care for them. We speak their names, or remember them in silence before you now We pray eternal rest for those who have died and your comfort for those who mourn.

*Lord of the deep **Hear our prayer***

Loving Lord, may all our thoughts, decisions and actions reflect your love and compassion. Help us to grow your Kingdom, be channels of your peace and learn the lessons of the past, putting our faith in your future.

We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(New Zealand Prayer Book)

Eternal Spirit

***Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:***

***The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples 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 hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial 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.***

Disturb Us Lord

(Attributed to Sir Francis Drake)

Disturb us Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves; when our dreams have come true, because we have dreamed too little; when we arrive safely, because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us Lord, when, with the abundance of things we possess, we have lost our thirst for the waters of life – having fallen in love with life, we have ceased to dream of eternity and in our efforts to build a new earth, we have allowed our vision of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us Lord, to dare more boldly to venture on wider seas, where storms will show your mastery; where, losing sight of land, we shall find the stars. We ask you to push back the horizons of our hopes, as we sail into the future in strength, courage and love.

Amen.

BLESSING

**In the full tide of the day and in its ebbing.
In the rising of the sun and its setting.
The holy God guide you,
the loving God protect you,
the mighty God be with you
and all those you love, today and for evermore.
Amen**



Resources : Tides and Seasons by David Adam
Words in italics : Linda Garthwaite