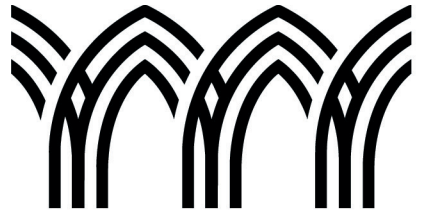


# EXPANSIVE EVENSONG

11 MARCH 2025



TRINITY  
CATHEDRAL

Tonight's service is taken from the Iona Abbey Community. The Iona Community is an ecumenical movement based on the Isle of Iona in Scotland, founded in 1938 by George MacLeod. It is known for its focus on social justice, peace, and environmental stewardship, drawing inspiration from early Celtic Christianity. The community emphasizes communal living, inclusive worship, and outreach to marginalized groups.

*The People's responses are in bold*

## Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Trad. Irish

*The People stand*

## Song *Christ Be Beside Me*



1. Christ be be-side me, Christ be be-fore me, Christ be be-hind me,
2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a-round me,
3. Christ be in all hearts think-ing a-bout me, Christ be on all tongues



1. King of my heart. Christ be with - in me, Christ be be - low me,
2. shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep-ing, Christ in my sit - ting,
3. tell - ing of me. Christ be the vis - ion in eyes that see me,



1. Christ be a - bove me, nev - er to part.
2. Christ in my ris - ing, light of my life.
3. in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be, Christ ev - er be.

# Welcome and Introduction

## Opening Responses

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.**

## Hymn *The King of Love*



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness  
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa-ter flow, my ran-somed  
\* 3 Per-verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
\* 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear



1 fail-eth nev-er; I noth-ing lack if  
2 soul he lead-eth, and where the ver-dant  
3 love he sought me, and on his shoul-der  
4 Lord, be-side me; thy rod and staff my



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev-er.  
2 pas-tures grow, with food ce-less-tial feed-eth.  
3 gent-ly laid, and home, re-joic-ing, brought me.  
4 com-fort still, thy cross be-fore to guide me.

## Prayers

Come, brother Jesus, be our guest, stay with us for day is ending.

Let us pray.

Holy One, **uniting earth and heaven, nurturing us and all things,**  
**bringing us together in your kingdom: may it happen here and everywhere.**

Give us bread to eat today and forgiveness for the way we cheat others of their bread,  
as we forgive those who have stolen ours.

May we not take revenge, and keep us safe from corruption,  
as we try to pursue your kingdom of equality, peace and justice,  
giving you thanks and glory. Amen.

Bring to this place your poverty,  
for then shall we be rich.

Bring to this place your pain,  
that in sharing it, we may also share your joy.

Bring to this place your understanding of us,  
that we may be freed to learn more of you.

Bring to this place your Holy Spirit,  
that we and all things might be made new.

With friend, with stranger, with the unknown and well known ones be among us tonight,  
for the doors of this house are open, and the doors of our hearts we leave ajar.

*The People sit*

## Scripture

Then Abimelech went to Thebez, and encamped against Thebez, and took it. But there was a strong tower within the city, and all the men and women and all the lords of the city fled to it and shut themselves in; and they went to the roof of the tower. Abimelech came to the tower, and fought against it, and came near to the entrance of the tower to burn it with fire. But a certain woman threw an upper millstone on Abimelech's head, and crushed his skull. Immediately he called to the young man who carried his armor and said to him, "Draw your sword and kill me, so people will not say about me, 'A woman killed him.'" So the young man thrust him through, and he died. When the Israelites saw that Abimelech was dead, they all went home.

*Judges 9:50-55 (NRSV)*

*The psalm is spoken responsively*

Let this be written for a future generation, so that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord.

For the Lord looked down from his holy place on high; from the heavens he beheld the earth;

That he might hear the groan of the captive and set free those condemned to die;

That they may declare in Zion the Name of the Lord, and his praise in Jerusalem;

When the peoples are gathered together, and the kingdoms also, to serve the Lord.

He has brought down my strength before my time; he has shortened the number of my days;

And I said, “O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days;  
your years endure throughout all generations.

**In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;**

They shall perish, but you will endure; they all shall wear out like a garment;  
as clothing you will change them, and they shall be changed;

**But you are always the same, and your years will never end.**

The children of your servants shall continue, and their offspring shall stand fast in your sight.”

*Psalm 102:18-28*

And he [Jesus] said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

*Luke 11:5-10 (NRSV)*

*At this time, silence, a reflection, or a discussion may be offered*

## Musical Reflection

Ag Christost an Siol

Seán Ò Riada

## Night Prayers

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.

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.

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.

God, be near them.  
God, be near them.

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.'

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.

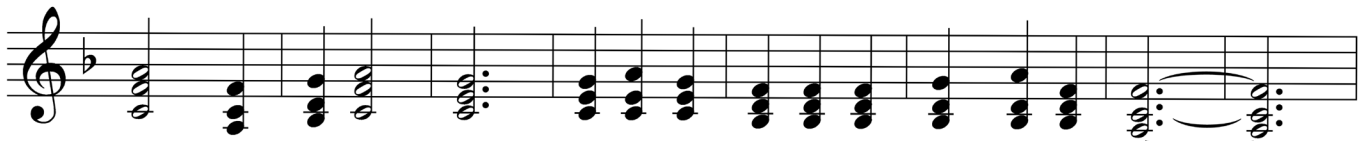
God, be near them.  
God, be near them.

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.**

### Song *Peace Before Us*



1. Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us, peace un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Love be - fore us, love be - hind us, love un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Light be - fore us, light be - hind us, light un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - hind us, Christ un - der our feet. \_\_\_\_\_



Peace with - in us, peace o - ver us, let all a - round us be peace.  
Love with - in us, love o - ver us, let all a - round us be love.  
Light with - in us, light o - ver us, let all a - round us be light.  
Christ with - in us, Christ o - ver us, let all a - round us be Christ.



## 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.**

## Postlude

My Lagan Love

Trad. Irish

## Participants in Today's Service

The Rev. Megan Allen-Miller, *officiant*

Dan Senger, *lector*

Emily Butler, Kira McGirr, Bill Ponzani, Craig Gahnz-Kuhar, *vocalists*

Anna O'Connell, *harp*

Shiloh Roby, *piano*

# Services At Trinity Cathedral *(Academic Year)*

## SUNDAY

8A

Spoken Eucharist

9A

The Abundant Table  
Eucharist

11:15A

Choral Eucharist

4P\*

Solemn Eucharist  
*\*first Sunday of the month*

## WEDNESDAY

6P

Choral Evensong  
*\*first, third, & fifth Wednesday of the month*

6P

Expansive Evensong  
*\*second and fourth Wednesday of the month*

## THURSDAY

12:10P

Healing Eucharist

Trinity Cathedral is an active and lively congregation serving downtown Cleveland, northeast Ohio, and the people of the Diocese of Ohio. We celebrate God's gift of diversity, and welcome people of every race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, age, physical and mental ability, national origin, and economic station.

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