

SUNDAY LITURGY

March 2022



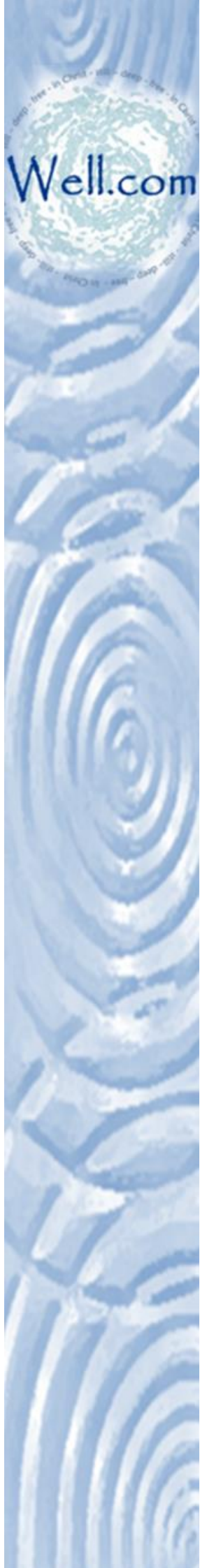
Welcome

You've joined us in a time of quiet for you and the Lord to enjoy together, in the company of others. You are in your own home and God is there with you. Any questions you hear during this time are intended for you to take into the quiet of your own heart.

We keep mikes on to maintain our connection with each other. However, at particular times you will be asked to mute. As in liturgy, our actions signal something of what God is doing with us. 'Let us mute' is God inviting us to listen carefully.

Your responses are in **blue**

This evening's gospel invites us to be with Jesus as he is tempted in the desert. We reflect on it in a way that connects us with our daily lives and the source of the joy that was once more obvious in this season – the joy that brought itself to earth to be shared and would let nothing get in the way of doing that. The Love that came among the most isolated and rejected of people, who suffered and died for them so that they would know the God of covenantal love, the God who would never leave them, whose love was stronger than death.



Creator God,
present in the Spring growth,
stirring creation to new life
at home in life's seeds and sorrows
Inviting us to trust the ongoing rhythms of your earth

We are grateful for your presence in all things
Creator God, we thank you

*We become aware of the Risen Jesus
Sitting in the room with each one of us.
He is with you now. Smiling.
Happily spending all his time with you.
Enjoying your company*

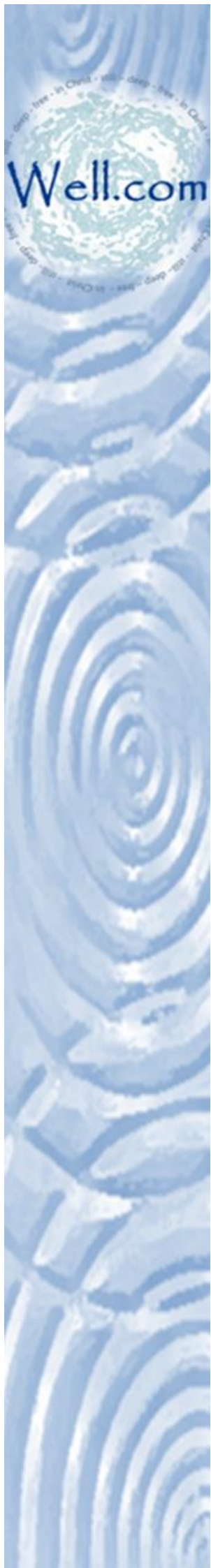
(Pause)

Son of God,
Word Made flesh. Living in the middle of my life,
In my house
Today and every day.
Enjoying my company,
At home with me

We are grateful for your presence at home one of us
Son of God, we thank you

*We notice our breath,
a reminder of God's Spirit-Breath, Ruach,
in each one of us.
Each one alive with God's breath.
Each one precious, wanted, welcome*

(Pause)



Spirit-Breath of God

Filling our hearts with God's abundant life and love,
Stirring life, bringing about unfurling,
In spring growth around me. In me.

We are grateful for your presence within us
Spirit God, We thank you.

Let us mute



You, O Lord are in this place
Keith Duke

Let us unmute, let us speak

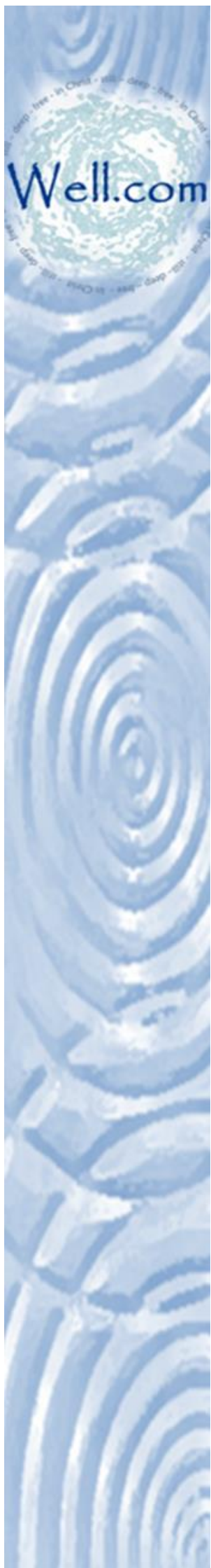
To the Lord who is at home with each one of us we pray:

Creator God

Help us to trust
your promise of new life
unfurling in spring places
in our lives.

Your presence,
with us, in us
in it all.

AMEN



Psalm 90(91)

God is my stronghold in whom I trust.

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
say to the LORD, "My refuge and fortress,
my God in whom I trust."

God is my stronghold in whom I trust.

No evil shall befall you, nor shall affliction come near your tent,
For to his angels he has given command about you,
that they guard you in all your ways.

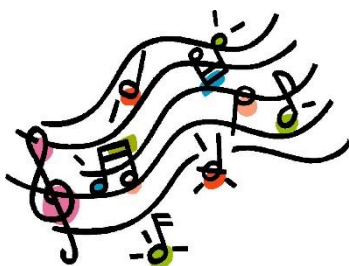
God is my stronghold in whom I trust.

Upon their hands they shall bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
You shall tread upon the asp and the viper;
you shall trample down the lion and the dragon.

God is my stronghold in whom I trust.

Because he clings to me, I will deliver him;
I will set him on high because he acknowledges my name.
He shall call upon me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in distress; I will deliver him and glorify him.

God is my stronghold in whom I trust.



Psalm 90 (91) Kiran Wimberley and the
McGraths *Celtic Psalms*



HELP!!

How do we believe that the Lord is at home in us when we have so much difficulty being at home with ourselves. We need help to remember how much we matter to God, that he has made his home in each one of us.

When I compare myself to others
and feel unsettled and inadequate,
remind me that you created me, that I am your work of art!
That I am enough

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

When I over stuff my days with food and entertainment,
encourage me to slow down and savour it
and also to recognise the hungers
that need my care and your loving attention

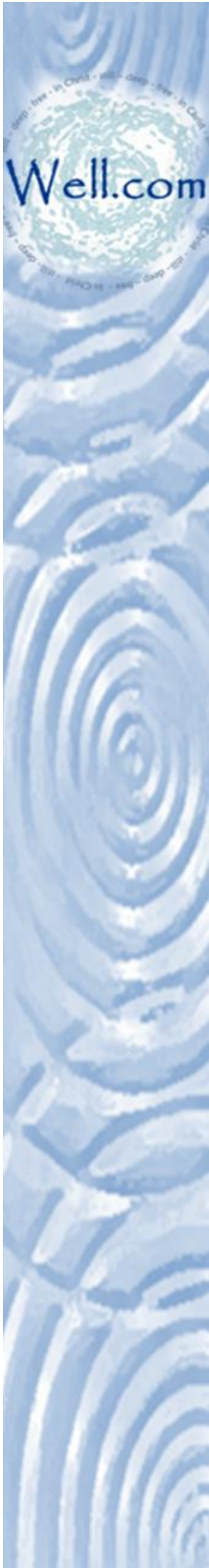
Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer

When I am tempted to lose heart,
feel discouraged by the craziness and greed in the world,
help me look for your presence among us
see your goodness in small things and surprising places.

Lord in your mercy:

Hear our prayer



And so we pray:

Lord, Free us from things that do not lead to you,
free us to love as you love.

When we are wearied by hurt and pain,
dogged by fear and insecurity,
when we forget who you are and who we are,
help us to remember that, however imperfect we might be
you have made your home in us

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord AMEN

PRAYING WITH JESUS IN THE GOSPEL

Today's reading invites us into the temptations that faced Jesus as he began his ministry. We stay with him in the gospel perhaps asking his help to recognise what gets in the way of remembering who God is and who we are for God.

Luke 4:1-13

Tree of Life Version

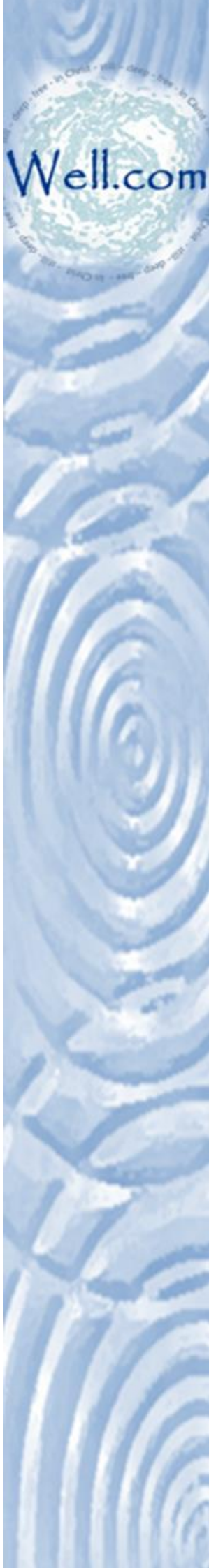
Temptation in the Wilderness

4 Jesus, now filled with the Spirit, returned from the Jordan. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tested by the devil. Now He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He was hungry.

³ The devil said to Him, "If You are The Son of God tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ And leading Him up, the devil showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in an instant. ⁶ And the devil said to Him, "I'll give to You all this authority along with its glory, because it has been handed over to me and I can give it to anyone I wish. ⁷ Therefore, if you will worship before me, all this shall be Yours."

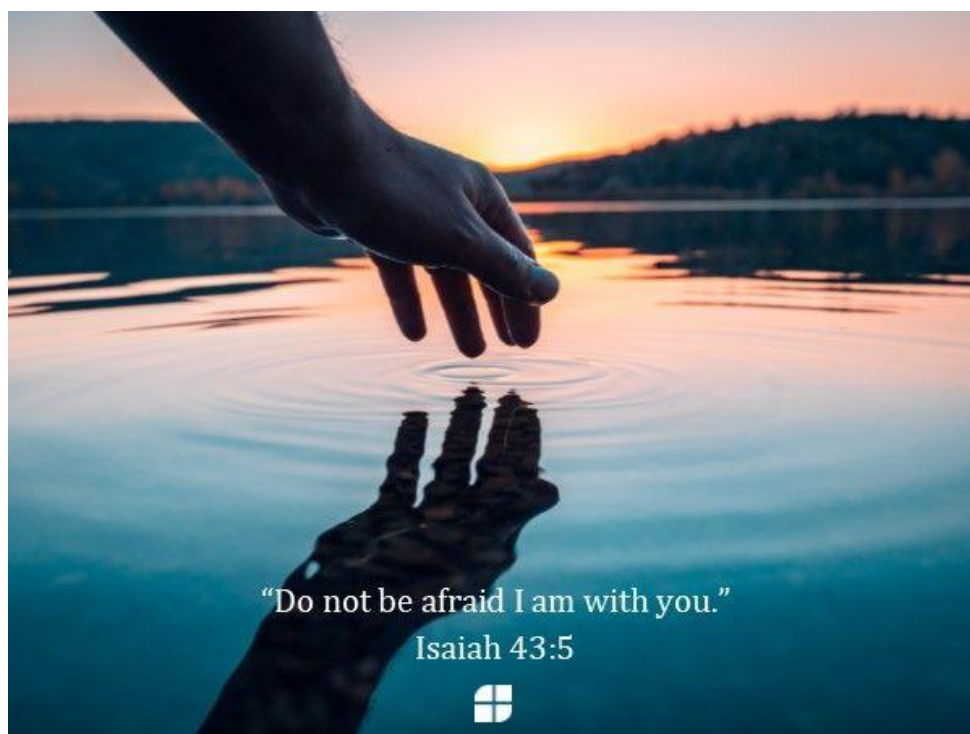


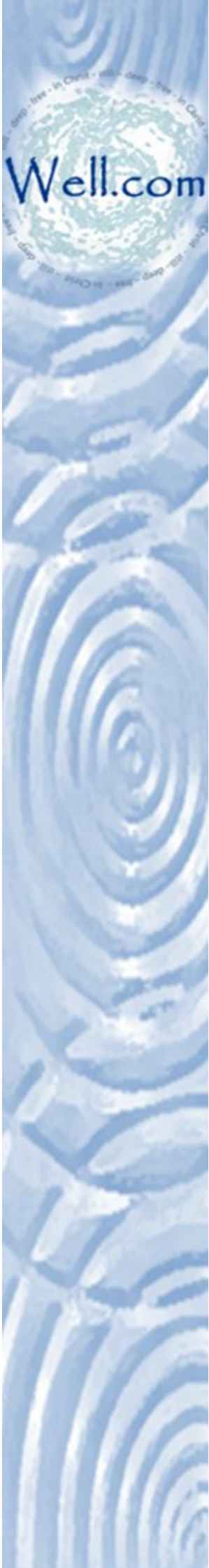
⁸ But answering, Jesus told him, "It is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God. Him alone shall you serve.'"

⁹ Then he brought Jesus to Jerusalem and placed Him on the highest point of the Temple. He said to Him, "If You are The Son of God throw Yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written,

'He will command His angels concerning you, to guard you, ¹¹ and 'upon their hands they will lift you up, so that you may not strike your foot against a stone.'

¹² But answering, Jesus said to him, "It is said, 'You shall not put Adonai your God to the test.'" ¹³ And when the devil had completed every test, he departed from Him until another occasion.





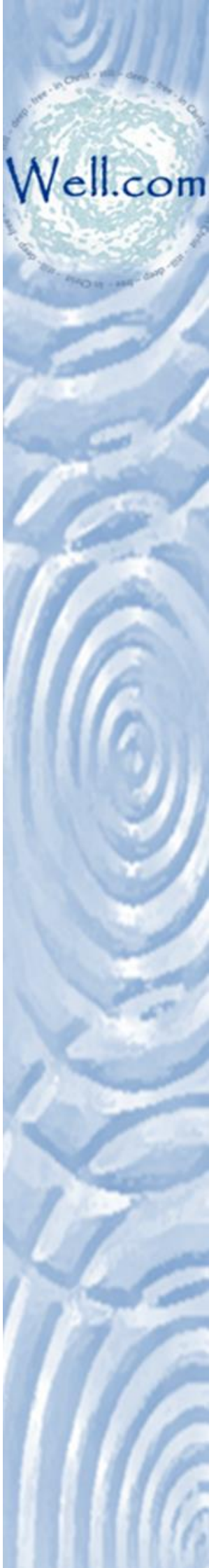
**Our Father who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread
Forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
For yours is the kingdom the power and the glory
For ever and ever Amen**

CLOSING PRAYER

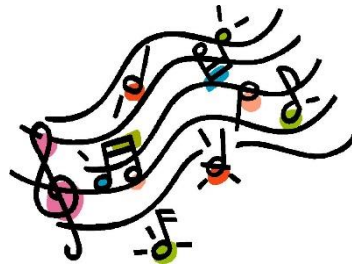
O Lord of joyful feasting and fresh starts,
of faithful lavish love
bless us as we leave this prayer
With us in our resting, restoring to serve you
With us in our waking, opening our eyes
to the generosity of creation
With us in our doing as we act in practical ways
to set aside our needs for stuff and status
to honour and restore the creation
into which you have poured your life and your love.

Let us recognise your presence
Within our hearts and homes
Let us recognise you as
The source of all our daring
The source of all our giving
The source of all our loving
The source of all life outside and within us
This night and always

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen



Take this moment to look at the screen and be aware of the people God has gathered up this evening. We pause to pray for each other in the silence of our hearts.



... and continue to pray as we listen to the blessing sung by The Chorale Scholars

**May we rest
In the stillness of God
May we find acceptance
in the deep love of his Son
and in our coming and our going
may we experience
the freedom of the Spirit
day by day
calling us
to new life
together
in Christ**

We leave this time of prayer together asking that we live and love:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit AMEN

