

The Church of Mitford and Hebron
Morning Prayer in the Celtic Tradition

This service of Morning Prayer draws on the traditions of ancient Celtic Christianity and reflects the rich heritage of the 7th century 'Northern Saints' such as Aidan and Cuthbert. The words and prayers we will say echo the central themes of Celtic spirituality: an emphasis on God as Trinity; the beauty and holiness of the created order; the sacramental nature of ordinary life and work; and the importance of silence and contemplation to our growth in the knowledge of God.

St Cuthbert would often retreat alone to quiet places to deepen his relationship with the Creator, in silence and meditation. We pray that in this time of worship you too will find rest for your soul. As we meet may we be refreshed and strengthened by the One who is "*the same yesterday, and today, and forever*" (Hebrews 13:8, KJV).

Order of Service

Including prayers from *Celtic Daily Prayer* ©2015 The Northumbria Community Trust.
The sections in bold type may be said all together.

Welcome

A candle may be lit.

**In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Seeking God's grace

**'One thing I have asked of the Lord,
this is what I seek;
that I may dwell in the house
of the Lord all the days of my life;
to behold the beauty of the Lord
and to seek Him in His temple.'**
(from Psalm 27)

*Call: Who is it that you seek?
We seek the Lord our God.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all
your heart?
Amen, Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your soul?
Amen, Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your mind?
Amen, Lord, have mercy.*

*Call: Do you seek Him with all your
strength?
Amen, Christ, have mercy.*

Silence, for prayer and reflection.

*Leader: Come, let us return to the Lord
and he will heal us.
May God forgive us, Christ renew us,
and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.*

Response
**Spirit of the Living God,
I thank you for your gift of love and
your grace, made known to us
in Jesus Christ.
Now, as I listen for your Word,
draw me deeper into your presence
and your purpose for my life. Amen.**

Reading from scripture

Sermon

Pausing

*responding to God's Word
in music or quiet reflection.*

Prayers

*for the needs of God's world,
concluding in The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Canticle

**Christ, as a light
illumine and guide me;
Christ, as a shield
overshadow me.
Christ, under me
Christ, over me
Christ, beside me
on my left and my right.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Be in the heart of each to whom I
speak; and in the mouth of each
who speaks unto me.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Christ as a light
Christ as a shield
Christ beside me
on my left and my right.**

Blessing and departing

*May the peace of the Lord Christ
go with you, wherever
He may send you.
May He guide you through the
wilderness, protect you
through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once
again into our doors.*

**All: In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**