

# **TECHNO-DOXOLOGY**

## **Consultation in Lanark March 8 2018**

### **Opening Worship** *based on the ancient office of Terce*

#### **Introduction**

Since in this consultation we are looking far ahead towards the worship of the future, we begin from far back in its (still living) tradition.

Terce was third hour of the morning and was based round three psalms framed by antiphons and followed by a short Bible reading and scriptural responses.

We have re-envisioned Terce for today, and all the material in this order derives from scriptural passages which seem in different ways to embrace our theme. Also 're-imagined' are the psalms, using versions prepared by Dr Lezley Stewart for a project in Greyfriars Kirk, which, although for a different purpose, coincidentally seem to touch the bounds for which reach today.

The music that frames the middle psalm is from one of the albums by Jordi Savall, an Early Music specialist who also brings together musicians from both sides of situations of conflict (in this case Syria) to show how peace and reconciliation can be made in music and the arts and the creativity of humankind. The track is played on a medieval flute.

The *Revised English Bible* is the principal translation used.

#### **The Office of Terce**

Leader In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

All **Amen.**

#### **Antiphon – Psalms - Antiphon**

*Antiphon*

Leader He is the image of the invisible God;

All **his is the primacy over all creation.** Col.1:15

1. Psalm 8

*Read by two speakers (A, B) and congregation (All)*

A God Eternal,  
in the tingling of the senses,  
you are experienced all around.  
You are praised in many ways.

All Wonder abounds,  
directing our thoughts to you.

B We question nature and order,  
the certainties of the past,  
the discoveries of new days,  
yet find you are not silenced.

All You are in life and all we learn,  
even if not known or fully understood.

A How you care will always feed our questions –  
why we suffer pain and grief and loss,  
how we live and laugh and breathe.

All We seek to know our place in your creation,  
revealing something of your image.

A Like the unfolding bloom,  
revealing colour and beauty  
we want to act with you,  
so life may blossom for all.

B God Eternal,  
in the tingling of the senses,

you are experienced all around.  
you are praised in many ways.

## 2. Psalm 19

*While music is played, all silently read this psalm at a thoughtful pace.*

Creative God,  
in the beauty of the world we sense you;  
in rivers and rainbows,  
sunlight and showers,  
there is wonder that points beyond.

We sense your mystery  
in colour and creativity.  
Early morning hues paint the landscape;  
night offers a muted palate of dreams.  
You create new impressions every day.

We seek you in silence and serenity,  
in turmoil and in storm.  
We know words cannot contain you,  
and you speak in many ways.

We praise you for Christ,  
who revealed beauty in love.  
In humanity  
he met with searching souls,  
making wise the simple,  
sharing in story and sign  
your creative power.  
We welcome the Spirit  
enlightening our minds,  
inviting our questions,  
challenging our fears,  
helping us to explore further,  
encouraging us to delve deeper.

We praise you in eternal mystery,  
you are our hearts desire.

### 3. Psalm 84

*Read antiphonally, east and west sides*

*(The Leader begins with the east side)*

East O God, you are my Centre;  
I seek you in the unfolding of each day.

West For this I long –  
to be where the Spirit is living  
and know my place is there.

East Doesn't everyone seek such a space –  
a place to thrive and be?  
Happy are those who find this gift.

West With you as the Centre  
life stretches out  
gently,  
generously,  
touching, connecting, sharing –  
creating a rippling effect.  
You inspire moments of praise,  
securing hope and strength deep within.

East Centre and Source, you are not hidden.  
You are living and breathing,  
crafting and composing the pages of the story  
where I am named and known.

*All together say*

O God, you are the Centre.  
Happy are those who dwell in you.

*Antiphon*

Leader He is the image of the invisible God;

All **his is the primacy over all creation.** Col.1:15

Leader He exists before all things,

All **and all things are held together in him.** Col.1:17

**'The Little Chapter'** *Exodus 35:10-19*

Each of you is to set aside a contribution to the Lord. ...

Let all the skilful among you come

and make everything the Lord has commanded: ...

fasteners, ... bars, posts and sockets, ...

the curtain of the screen, ... the lampstand for the light,

its fittings, lamps, and the lamp oil, ...

the stitched vestments for ministering in the Holy Place.

**Responses**

Creator God, you have made us in your image; Gen.1:26

**Nothing we have a mind to do is beyond our reach.** Gen.11:6

The glory of God is to keep things hidden,

**but the glory of kings is to fathom them.** Prov.25:2

We set our hand to the granite rock ...

**and bring the hidden riches of the earth to light.** Job 28:9,11

There is nothing for anyone to boast of;

we are God's handiwork,

**created in Christ Jesus for the life of good deeds**

**which God designed for us.** Eph.2:9-10

All things are lawful for me,

**but not all things are beneficial.** 1 Cor.6:12

Those who make idols are less than nothing;

their cherished images profit nobody;

**their worshippers are blind;**

**their ignorance shows up their foolishness.** Is. 44:9

I shall silence those who whisper slanders  
**I shall banish all crooked thoughts  
and will have no dealings with evil.** Ps.101:4-5

You may eat or drink, or do anything else  
**provided it is all done to the glory of God.** 1 Cor.10:31

The Lord says: Go to every part of the world,  
**and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.** Mk 16:15

Proclaim the Kingdom of God throughout the earth  
**as a testimony to all nations.** Mt.24:14

These are the worshippers the Father wants.  
**God is spirit, and those who worship him  
must worship in spirit and in truth.** John 4:23-24

Do not forbid speaking tongues;  
**but let all be done decently and in order.** 1 Cor.14:29-40

### Closing Collect

Creator God, you have filled us with your spirit  
making us skilful and ingenious,  
expert in every craft, Ex.35:31  
bringing the hidden riches of the earth to light, Job 28:11  
testing new pathways of text and pixel,  
spanning the globe and giving each individual a voice:  
by your Holy Spirit enable us to use our discoveries  
to bear witness to you  
in the furthest corners of the earth, Acts 1:8  
and to reach in prayer and in praise  
for things hidden from us, Eph.1:9  
that we more and more may image your Kingdom in our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

In this precious time of gathering with God,  
let the gospel of Christ dwell among you in all its richness:  
**teaching and instructing one another**  
**with all the wisdom it gives us. Amen.** Col.3:16