

Be Still My Soul

Holy Week Home Edition

"Tree of Light" 36x24" © 2012 Sally Trace

Normally, on the evening of April 8th, we would gather in God's healing presence for an hour of candle light, reflection, music and prayer.

But these are not "normal" times.

Since it is not possible for us to gather together as we normally could, I hope that this document will, in some small way, be a respite from the worry and uncertainties that are so prevalent at this time and help you find some peace.

This document consists of:

An Opening Worship with an Opening prayer, a Candle lighting prayer.

Three sections each with a reflection, song and silent prayer prompt.

A Closing Worship with a prayer for ourselves and others, a final song and a closing prayer.

The songs are links to YouTube lyric videos. Just click on the link and you will be taken right to the proper song on YouTube.

Please find a comfortable place to view this document. Proceed through it at your own pace, always feeling free to add your own prayers. I pray that you will feel the company and fellowship of other people who will also be viewing this document this week.



Opening worship

"Tree of Light" 36x28" © 2012 Sally Price

Opening Prayer:

Lord God, I place myself in your hands. Envelop me in your Spirit of peace, calm and quiet.

In this time of quarantine: the suspension of my routines, the fear of infection, and now the relentless distancing, I am tempted to withdraw from the world.

Bind me to You and to my neighbour with love. Keep me mindful of Your promise to be as close to me as my own breath, and Your call for me to love my neighbour with strength, wisdom and gentleness.

>add your own personal prayer<

And as this is Holy Week, help me discern how I may journey with Jesus through this week, with honesty and compassion.

Candle Lighting Prayer:

As this candle softly shines:
May the arm of God be about me,
May the way of Christ guide me,
May the strength of the Spirit support me.

May the holy and loving God encircle
this place and bring peace.



Section one

"Tree of Light" 30x20" © 2012 Sally Price

God Has a Dream by Desmond Tutu

Dear Child of God, I write these words because we all experience sadness, we all come at times to despair, and we all lose hope that the suffering in our lives and in the world will ever end. I want to share with you my faith and my understanding that this suffering can be transformed and redeemed. There is no such thing as a totally hopeless case. Our God is an expert at dealing with chaos, with brokenness, with all the worst that we can imagine. God created order out of disorder, cosmos out of chaos, and God can do so always, can do so now--in our personal lives and in our lives as nations, globally. ... Indeed, God is transforming the world now--through us--because God loves us.

Faithful One By Brian Doerksen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PjSO5IhI0M>

Teach me to be love, as You are Love,
Lead me through each fear,
Hold my hand as I walk through valleys of illusion each day,
That I may know Your peace.

Excerpt, Psalm 27, Nan C. Merrill adaptation



Section two

"Tree of Light" 30x20" © 2012 Sally Price

Psalm 40

Excerpts from Nan C. Merrill adaptation

Let your Love, your Light and faithfulness
Ever guide me and uphold me.
In your mercy, O Beloved, deliver me!
O Love, make haste to help me!
Let my fears be put to rest
Fears that separate me from you;
Let all that keeps me from love, peace and gratitude
Be transformed within me.
And may all who seek Love rejoice and be glad.
As for me, though often broken and weak,
I know that Love dwells within.
For now, where injustice or illusion make their home,
I witness to your Peace and Love,
O Teacher and Friend to all.

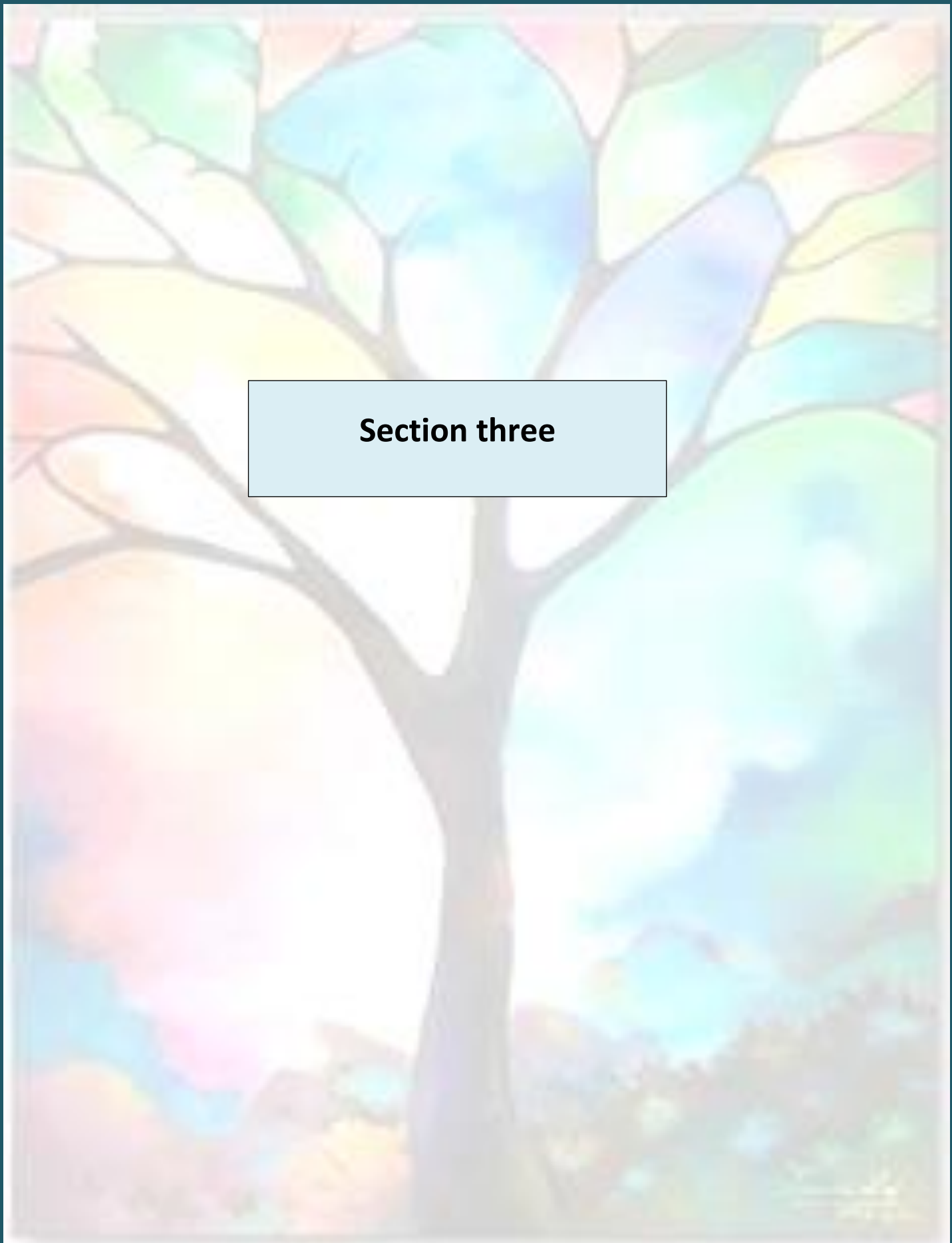
Good to Me

by Craig Musseau, performed by Kevin Prosch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZnkH8QGpTc>

Call upon the Beloved, be strong and trust in the heart's courage.
Trust in the power of Love; the Beloved's unconditional and
Everlasting love for you.

Excerpt, Psalm 27, Nan C. Merrill adaptation



Section three

"Tree of Light" 36x28" © 2012 Sally Price

Psalm 119

Excerpts, Nan C. Merrill adaptation

Help me to know, O teacher, the path to follow;
Lead the way and I will come.

In your love is the power to calm the storms of adversity.

Show me the power of Your forgiving Love.

O that I might learn to bless others selflessly,
To be a silent benediction.

Gentle me O Loving Guide

That I may learn the wisdom of purity, patience and peace.

Teach me of mercy, O You who are the Merciful One,
That my soul may serve with you joyfully and with love.

At the Foot of the Cross

by Kathryn Scott

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bilPEcAjDEQ>

Fill me with gladness

Help to transform weakness into strength

Look not on my past mistakes

But on the aspirations of my heart

Excerpt, Psalm 51, Nan C. Merrill adaptation



Closing Worship

"Tree of Light" Nov 2012 © 2012 Sally Price

Prayers for Myself and Others

Loving God, I hold in your healing presence our health and personal care workers caring for the sick and those with a bigger risk of the tragic effects of infection. We also pray for those working in the essential services, especially those in regular contact with the public. Cultivate within them their instinctive duty to serve. Keep them all safe from illness and over-work.

Loving God, I hold in your presence and peace those in our community who are particularly subject to feeling the ill effects of the quarantine. May they feel the deep peace of Christ.

Loving God, I keep in my prayers my family and friends, namely **>add whatever names you choose<**. Keep them safe from infection, help them stay safe, and bring them healing for any other health concerns.

For myself Loving God, I ask that I may remain free from infection. Help me be a good example to others in following the directions of the health and government officials. Help me find a new ways to experience community with others; to be creative in reaching out to those to whom I can be a neighbour, ever mindful of the blessings of Easter, and the joys of Spring.

Lord, I do not know what tomorrow will bring.

But I know You hold tomorrow,

And I know You hold my hand.

Amen

How Beautiful

by Twila Paris

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kJM0hFvz_64

Closing Prayer

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us and our loved ones evermore.

Now, may the Lord lead us when we go, keep us when we sleep and talk with us when we wake; and may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Keep well. Be Safe. Love wins!

If you lit a candle at the beginning of this presentation, please consider leaving it lit a little longer, in recognition of the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit, and as a reminder of the prayers that are being said for you.