



## ‘Unknowable we know you’ a short liturgy for the feast of Corpus Christi

‘Invisible we see you...  
unknowable we know you...’  
*from a prayer by George MacLeod*

## REACHING OUT

(You could, if you wish, light a candle with each stanza)

Jesus - born as one of us  
through the substance of your physical presence  
God's life was revealed;

Jesus - forever with us  
by the mystery of your real presence  
our lives are transformed;

Jesus - before and beyond us  
within the span of your cosmic presence  
all life is sustained.

Jesus -  
may this space  
which I now hold here  
be suffused  
with the deep joy  
of your presence  
Amen.

*you are invited to keep a time of silence*

## RECOGNITION AND RESHAPING

God, you are without limits  
and yet  
in grace,  
and out of love,

you choose to confine yourSelf  
within the elements of the world -  
incarnate flesh  
bread and wine  
encountered Others -  
for only so  
can we, who have limits,  
meet you and know you,  
speak of and show you.

Where I have not always seen you in the world  
expand my encountering  
that I may more fully know for myself  
the reality of your presence.

Where I have not always been you in the world  
enlarge my embodying  
that I may more fully play my part  
in making your presence real.

**READING:** Mark 14: 22-25

**REFLECTION:** [‘Altar of the Holy Blood’ by Tilman Riemenschneider](#)

A reflective art video podcast on Riemenschneider’s  
carving from Dr Debbie Lewer of the University of Glasgow  
(to start the podcast, click on the title above)

*you are invited to keep a time of silence*

## RESPONSE

Jesus of paradox  
so many boundaries meet  
and dissolve  
in the elemental mystery  
of your Body  
in all its generous possibilities.  
May I recognise and rejoice  
in the reality of your presence  
however I encounter it  
that I too  
may be transformed.

## REORIENTATION

Jesus  
as I inhabit  
explore  
and engage with  
the elements  
of my own small life,  
may I always be attentive to your presence  
wherever it is blessed  
broken  
and offered  
Amen.

*Liturgy © Pat Bennett The Iona Community*

*Photo Detail of Riemenschneider's 'Altar of the Holy Blood' By Holger Uwe Schmitt - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=46107076>*

*An online version of this liturgy with the podcast embedded can be found [here](#).*

This liturgy and podcast were prepared in partnership with St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Glasgow and with Dr Debbie Lewer, Senior Lecturer in History of Art at the University of Glasgow. It is the second in a series entitled 'Bodies in Transition'. The first podcast - for the Feast of the Visitation can be found here, and with the accompanying liturgy here. The final piece will be for the Feast of the Transfiguration and will be released on the 6th August. You can download a transcript of today's podcast here.



*Inspired by our faith, we pursue justice and peace in and through community*

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