

Prayers, 6 June 2021

Inspired by prayers from the Iona Community

God of Justice, keep us silent
when the only words we have to utter
are ones of labelling, exclusion or prejudice.

Teach us to face the wounds in our own hearts.

[Short pause]

ALL:

**God of Justice, give us the power of speech
to resist injustice, oppression and hate,
not only on our own behalf
but for others who are not heard:**

Make us peacemakers.

God of Power, keep us silent
So that we may listen respectfully
To another person's pain
Without trying to fade or fix it:

For You are present within each one of us.

[Short pause]

ALL:

**God of Power, give us courage
To share our gifts of speech
To comfort, uphold and strengthen:**

Let us be a glimpse of Your love to those in need.

God of Love, in the silence of our hearts
Give us words of welcome, acceptance and renewal
So that when we speak
Our words come from You:

For you are present within each one of us.

[Short pause]

ALL:

**God of Love, give us voices of praise
To celebrate each other
And the glories of creation:**

Believing that we all live within Your blessing.

Amen