**Prayers of Concern**

**Leader:** O Christ, kindle in our hearts within a flame of love to our neighbour, to our foes, to our friends, to our kindred all.

**All:** O Christ of the poor and the yearning, 
From the humblest thing that lives 
To the name that is highest of all, 
Kindle in our hearts within a flame of love.

(Each person may have a candle which will be lit from neighbour to neighbour, followed by a period of intercessions, freely spoken or unspoken. At the end of this time the following prayer will be said:)

**Leader:** We are placing our souls and our bodies under your guarding this night, O Christ.

**All:** O son of the tears, of the wounds, of the piercings, 
May your cross this night be shielding all.

**Song/Music**

**Blessing**

**Leader:** Be the great God between your shoulders to protect you in your going and your coming; be the Son of Mary near your heart; and be the perfect Spirit upon you pouring.

**All:** Amen.

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**A CELTIC EVENING LITURGY**

**Opening Responses**

**Leader:** Come to us this night, O God, 
**All:** Come to us with light. 
(Here a candle may be lit and placed centrally)

**Leader:** Speak to us this night, O God, 
**All:** Speak to us your truth. 
(Here a Bible may be placed centrally)

**Leader:** Dwell with us this night, O God, 
**All:** Dwell with us in love. 
(Here a cross may be placed centrally)

**Song/Music**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Leader:** Thanks be to you O Christ, 
**All:** For the many gifts you have bestowed on us, 
Each day and night, each sea and land, 
Each weather fair, each calm, each wild.
Leader: Each night may we remember your mercy
given so gently and generously.

All: Each thing we have received,
From you it came;
Each thing for which we hope,
From your love it will come;
Each thing we enjoy,
It is of your bounty;
Each thing we ask,
Comes of your disposing.

Leader: O God, from whom each thing that is, freely flows,

All: Grant that no tie over strict, no tie over dear,
May be between ourselves and this world. Amen.

The Word of God

Leader: O God, as these words are read,

All: In our hearts may we feel your presence.

Reader: (a portion of scripture)

Song/Music

Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe, O God of all gods,
That you are the eternal God of life,
We believe, O God of all gods,
That you are the eternal God of love.

Men: We believe, O God and Maker of all creation,
that you are the creator of the high heavens,
that you are the creator of the deep seas,
that you are the creator of the stable earth.

Women: We believe, O God of all the peoples,
that you created our souls and set their warp,
that you created our bodies and gave them breath,
that you made us in your own image.

All: We give you our worship
With our whole lives,
We give you our assent
With our whole power,
We give you our existence
With our whole mind,
We give you our kneeling
With our whole desire.