

RHYTHMS OF GRACE

In company with the Community of Saint Chad we recall that Jesus says: Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. (Matt 11.38)

Rhythm One: *By God's grace, I will seek to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.*

R1 Jesus lived a life of perfect love and was the light that no darkness could quench.

R2 Chad was a channel of God's grace to all he met, and Christ's light shone through him.

L Will you work daily with God so that you will be transformed into the likeness of Christ?

I will. Come, gracious Spirit, come

Rhythm Two: *By God's grace, I will be open to the presence, guidance and power of the Holy Spirit.*

R1 Jesus prayed "Not my will but yours be done".

R2 Chad went wherever God led, even into difficult situations.

L Will you be open to the presence, guidance and power of the Holy Spirit?

I will. Come, sustaining Spirit, come.

Rhythm Three: *By God's grace, I will set aside time for prayer, worship and spiritual reading.*

R1 Jesus made time to pray daily and joined others for worship on the Sabbath.

R2 Chad recognised the interdependence of private and corporate prayer.

L Will you set aside the time for prayer, worship and spiritual reading?

I will. Come, encouraging Spirit, come.

Rhythm Four: *By God's grace, I will endeavour to be a gracious presence in the world, serving others and working for justice in human relationships and social structures.*

R1 Jesus laid aside his majesty, took the form of a servant and shared our human life.

R2 Chad forsook a privileged future for a life of prayer, ministry and mission.

L Will you be a gracious presence in the world, serving others and working for justice? **I will. Come, generous Spirit, come.**

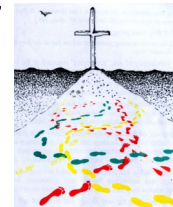
Rhythm Five: *By God's grace, I will sensitively share my faith with others and support God's mission both locally and globally.*

R1 Jesus sent his disciples out and commanded them to preach the gospel to all nations.

R2 Chad's obedience led him from Northumberland to Ireland, Yorkshire, Mercia and Lichfield.

L Will you share your faith with others and support local and global mission?

I will. Come, empowering Spirit, come.



COMMUNITY COLLECT

Be with us as we seek to follow in the footsteps of your servant Chad, whose humility and prayerfulness attracted so many to your kingdom. Let our lives, like his, reflect the light of Christ and the hope of faith. In the name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MOVING ON SONG:

**Thuma Mina...somandla
Send me Jesus
Lead me Jesus
Fill me Jesus...
Your words.....**



Chad Prayers for Pilgrims



Leader:

+In the name of the God of thunder.
In the name of the Saviour from ill.
In the name of the Spirit of mercy.
In the name of the Three we are still.

COLLECT:

Almighty God, from the first fruits of the English nation who turned to Christ, you called your servant Chad to be an evangelist and bishop of his own people: give us grace to follow his peaceable nature, humble spirit and prayerful life, that we may truly commend to others the faith which we ourselves profess, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHAD OF THE JOURNEY

God of the storm, God of the stillness:
Of squalls of power and of shimmering calm.

Into life's troughs and into life's billows:
Come with the reach of your long right arm.

Chad of the journey, Chad of the prayer:
Of the humble heart and the teaching tales.

Into life's troughs and into life's billows:
He brings God's Presence that prevails.

People of faith, Body of Christ:
Joined to the saints, joined to the source.

In time of temptation, when tossed about:
We take heart from Chad's God, we finish our course.

Mighty God, you are stronger than the tyrants:
Mighty God you are stronger than the grave.

Each day, each dark,
In time, in eternity,
We are in your keeping sure:
We are in your keeping sure.

CHAD INSIGHTS

CHAD's obedience led him from Northumberland to Ireland, Yorkshire, Mercia and Lichfield.

God of All Nations,
We place ourselves before you
To seek your way for us.
Awaken in us a longing for our true home
And teach us obedience to our calling. **Amen**

CHAD crossed over from Lindisfarne to Ireland for further education.
As Abbot in Northumbria he became known as an admirable teacher.....

May we be ready to learn new truths today
To go beyond the safe and familiar
As we follow in the way of the Cross. **Amen**

3. In Lichfield where CHAD made his headquarters, he retained a simple way of prayer. He built some cells nearby where he and eight brethren would regularly retreat to.

Lord, teach us to pray.
Alone and with others,
In hunger and in plenty
Morning, noon and night. **Amen**

4. CHAD resigned as Bishop of York in favour of the other candidate Wilfrid.

Almighty God, whose servant Chad for the peace of the church
Relinquished readily the honour that had been thrust upon him
Give us we pray that same humility
In the name of Him who washed his disciples feet. **Amen**

CHAD loved to evangelise by walking everywhere.....

As we walk open our eyes and ears
Guide us as we walk in the steps of Chad and Werburgh
And in the steps of all holy men and women before us,
That we may play our part in God's mission
With feet fitted with readiness
That comes from the gospel of peace.
Amen.