

## **Christ Church Anthem: *A Gaelic Blessing* (Rutter)**

The text of *A Gaelic Blessing* was written by a Scottish author/poet named William Sharp who wrote under the pseudonym Fiona MacLeod.

He was part of a Celtic revival movement and a contemporary of poet William Yeats. Our choir is singing a shortened version by John Rutter.

Text as it appears in William Sharp's *The Dominion of Dreams: Under the Dark Star* (1909)

Deep peace I breathe into you,  
O weariness, here:  
O ache, here!  
Deep peace, a soft white dove to you;  
Deep peace, a quiet rain to you;  
Deep peace, an ebbing rain to you;  
Deep peace, red wind of the east from you;  
Deep peace, grey wind of the west to you;  
Deep peace, dark wind of the north from you;  
Deep peace, blue wind of the south to you!

Deep peace, pure red of the flame to you;  
Deep peace, pure white of the moon to you;  
Deep peace, pure green of the grass to you;  
Deep peace, pure brown of the earth to you;  
Deep peace, pure grey of the dew to you;  
Deep peace, pure blue of the sky to you!

Deep peace of the running wave to you,  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,  
Deep peace of the sleeping stones to you!

Deep peace of the Yellow Shepherd to you,  
Deep peace of the Wandering Shepherdess to you,  
Deep peace of the Flock of Stars to you,  
Deep peace from the Son of Peace to you,  
Deep peace from the heart of Mary to you,  
And from Bridget of the Mantle  
Deep peace, deep peace!

And with the kindness too of the Haughty Father  
Peace!  
In the name of the Three who are One,  
Peace!  
And by the will of the King of the Elements,  
Peace! Peace!

John Rutter's *A Gaelic Blessing*

*Lyrics*

Deep peace of the running wave to you  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you  
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you  
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you  
Deep peace of Christ to you

"Peace be with you." (John 20:19)

Shalom to all this beautiful Easter season.

*Nancy Wright-DeKuyper*