

Dusking Liturgy

Intro:

The summer is fading now and these days mark the beginning of darkening night, leaves falling, temperatures ebbing away leads to winter to knock at our door, for frost to start to bite.

As we stand on the edge of land and sea
As we share this present twilight tick from day to night
As we sense our standing within creation

We are not the centre
We are not the focus
We are not the strong

We come with memories of burgeoning buds
We come with memories of warmer days
We come with memories of those we have walked alongside

Refrain: **And so we come**

Instruction - silence

Refrain: **As the shifting seas call out/shout out/... we dance with the origin of creation**

If the sands could speak
it would join in with early morning sea swimmers and beach runners
It would join in with boot camp exertion and mindful beach yoga
It would tell stories of sandcastles, moats and buckets and spades
It would tell stories of litter pickers and gold hunting detectorists.
It would share of sun rise seekers and late night fire gatherers
It would share laughter and playful memories of long summer days

Refrain: **And so we come**

Action: Share a memory

Refrain: **As the shifting seas call out/shout out/... we dance with the origin of creation**

If the sea could speak
It would tell stories of a single flower resting on a dancing tide,
It would speak of heart wrenching break ups, washed to the horizon

It would witness imprints of lone walks to process pain washed in the tide
It would share tears and grief of the illness's that weigh us down being
absorbed into the salty sea
It would reveal sea washed sandy memories of those we have loved and lost
it would remind us of all the 'what might have been' moments as the sea
uncovers deep secrets long forgotten.

Refrain: **And so we come**

Action: Write an initial in the sand

Refrain: **As the shifting seas call out/shout out/... we dance with the origin of creation**

If the trees/rocks could speak
They would remind us of our history
They would remind us that we never learn
They would remind us that the season come and the season go
They would remind us that rest is important
They would remind us to always try to be the best we can be
They would remind us that letting go is ok

Refrain: **And so we come**

Action: Go and find a rock/tree and place your hands upon it... walk slowly and mindfully.

Refrain: **As the shifting seas call out/shout out/... we dance with the origin of creation**

Our ancestors have stood here for thousands of years
The tide has always come in and gone out
The rocks have been worn by wind and water
Sands shift with each new storm revealing that which was hidden
The seas dead coughed up to decompose
Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return

Refrain: **And so we come**

Action: We encourage you to stand on the seas edge... to enter the sea as you feel led... jump over a wave... put your hands in the sea...engage with

Refrain: **As the shifting seas call out/shout out/... we dance with the origin of creation**

Labyrinth Remembering those who gone before..

As we gather in the this ancient place, surrounded by sand, sea and rock that holds memory of days and times gone by.

Refrain: **We Come**

We come together to honour those who have died.

And In the embrace of nature, we find solace and connection with the origin of creation.

Today, we acknowledge our grief and celebrate the lives that have touched ours.

Refrain: **And so we Remember**

We remember those whose memory is faint to us but yet has marked us

Refrain: **And so we Remember**

We remember those who's memory is tangible to us where sadness and joy meet as friends.

Refrain: **And so we Remember**

Just as nature cycles through life and death, so do we find meaning in memories of those who have died.

And so we honour the love that remains, even in their absence.

So we share moments of silence to reflect on loved ones who have gone before us

Silence

In this stillness, we hold their names and stories close to us as we do this simple breathing exercise: Take a moment to breathe deeply in and out with the following instructions:

Starting with our hands together we breath out extending our arms

Breath in bringing our hands together

Breath out with outstretched arms

Breath in bringing hands together

Breath out with outstretched arms

Breath in bringing hands together

Breath out with outstretched arms

Breath in in bringing hands together

Breath out with outstretched arms

Breath in bringing hands together

In this stillness, we hold their names and stories close.

Refrain: **And so we Remember**

We affirm the enduring bonds of love that transcend time and space.

We celebrate the lives we cherish and the lessons they have shared with us.

As we stand here with the origin of creation in this natural setting, let us reflect on how we can honour their memory.

How can we carry their spirit forward in our lives?

We remember that love is the enduring legacy of those we cherish.

We carry their spirit with us as we walk as we walk the labyrinth and as we walk the path of life.

May we find comfort in each other and strength in our shared memories and may we be held by the sacred friend.

**Refrain: We have stood on the edge of land and sea
We have shared the present twilight tick
from day tonight**

We have sensed our standing in creation

We are known

We are seen

We are loved

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