

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

God asks us, “How have I wearied you?”
What has God done to us that we have cut off communication, gone our own way, forgotten the Source and Sustainer of All Life? Or is the fault with us, not God? Before the mountains of God’s holiness, let us plead our case by praying Our Common Prayer of Confession printed on p. 2 of our bulletin.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS & NEW LIFE

Hear the Wonderful News! When we feel soiled by our own selfishness, we are brought close by Jesus, who gathers us still, who turns to listen to our voices, who reaches out to touch us with hands he is not afraid to get dirty, to embrace us; who, in moments of accepting us for who we are shows us that we are forgiven and worthy of love and respect. Friends, believe this Wonderful News, for I tell you this day: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Let the whole church say, “I am God’s beloved and forgiven child now and always. Amen.”

As God’s beloved and forgiven children, know that God calls us to a new life of justice, kindness, and humility, of meekness, spiritual hunger, and mercy of pure hearts and peace-making. We are blessed! Let us rejoice and be glad by offering one another a sign of God’s peace. Peace be with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God is the Primal Word, who was from the beginning, the light and victory winning.
God speaks yet ever forth. Amen.

THE CALL TO A LIFE OF SHARING

God has led us to this place to heal and inspire us, to gently redirect us, until we see the world as God does and love it with God’s love. With our gifts, we affirm that God’s generosity can make us all into a new creation by the way we give of ourselves.

OUR PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liberator Christ, you went to the top of a mountain and taught sacred words about the meek and the grief stricken, about the lost and the lonely. Come to this place now, and by these gifts help us to see the world not as it is, but as it could be, that we may become good news to all. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O God, whose foolishness is wiser than our wisdom, and whose weakness is stronger than our strength, draw us close to yourself in this time of prayer. We delight in the abundance of prosperity with which you have blessed us. Even more, we delight in the gifts we have received in Christ Jesus. We glad rejoicing, we thank you for our joys

Christ Jesus, give us the grace and the vision to discern the outbreak of your reign in the world. Teach us to look with eager expectation for your promised future. Keep us unsatisfied with merely present arrangements. Make us eager for more than that which currently passes for “reality.”

Holy Spirit lead us into all truth as we work and pray for the transformation of the world into the Realm of God. As we look with faith for the triumph of righteousness and the life everlasting, we pray for

God in Community, Holy in One, we ask all these things in the hope and expectation that you make all things new, that you continue to create and recreate so that your will is done on earth as it is in heaven. To that end, we pray as Jesus taught us, “Our Father, who art in heaven”

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

People of God, receive God’s commissioning and blessing:

As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry.

As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.

As you have been received – give.

As you have heard – proclaim.

And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

Let the whole church say, “And also with you.”

Thanks be God! Alleluia! Amen!