



Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

Confession:

Let us acknowledge before God the pain we have inflicted on the world and the future, trusting that we can be changed.

Merciful God, we are ashamed.
We have broken and despoiled what you have made.
In our greed to possess,
we have taken what is not ours, dealing death,
poisoning the well of life.
We have forgotten how to live with your creation.
Choosing instead to live as if there is no tomorrow,
we have stolen from our children and grandchildren,
becoming fat on the banquet of selfishness.
We turn back to you, ready to change,
open to your leading and longing for hope.
Cleanse our betrayal. Turn to us.
Lead us from darkness into light.
Lead us from death into life.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
teach us humility and bring us home.

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Eucharistic Prayer:

All worship is rightly yours,
God of complexity, God of mystery, God of beauty.
You are present in the full moon over desert sands.
You drink in the birdsong of a waking rainforest.
You thunder in the wild rivers,
and whisper in deep aquifers.
Author and beating heart of all things,
we honour your untamed glory.

In Jesus you became the locus of life,
incarnate love, enfleshed hope,
revealing love for your prodigal people.
Where we bruised, you healed.
Where we destroyed, you restored.
Through Christ, your boundless generosity
invites us back into the family of the living.
You repudiate death, making all things new.

With firefly and whale-shark,
fungi and forest, we praise you,
God of relentless mercy,
lifting our voices in one, eternal song.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We come to your table to learn again the law of love.
Teach us to turn towards light.
Restore your earth, renew our hearts,
enable us to see and love, as you see and love.

We thank you that
in these gifts of bread and wine,
we bear witness to the good fruit of your creation.
Renew in us, a willingness to embrace your Spirit,
as we honour and follow your Son.

(continued....)

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(continues....)

Betrayed and threatened,
he gathered his friends.
Taking bread, he blessed and tore it,
giving them new words of life.
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

He took the cup, once more giving thanks.
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ is present here.**

God of kindness,
we celebrate the outpouring of your love.
Enable us to be companions
in your mission to restore all things.
Rekindle our strength, that we might honour your world,
protect your creatures, and replant your garden.
May we be messengers of
love, hope and justice,
until you come again.

As we recall Christ's death and resurrection,
celebrating the presence of your Spirit,
and rejoicing in your love,
we receive these mysteries with open hearts.
**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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Prayer after Communion

God of life,
in your grace we receive what we need each day.
As you have met us in the ordinary things of bread and wine,
meet us in our homes and places of work.
In our gardens and places of recreation,
renew, nourish and sustain us,
inspiring within us a deep love for your creation.

Gentle Creator,
**May your Spirit enable us to bring healing and hope
to a world that longs for it;
bring justice and new ways of being
to a world that craves life and love.
May we go out in joy
and be led forth in peace,
that the mountains and hills
may burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
once more clap their hands.**

(Alternate version)

God of life,
We have come to you to receive all that we need.
As we have been joined into your life,
may we also join in the life of the world,
bringing nourishment and renewal.
Grow in us a wild river of love for all that is,
honouring your presence in the beauty and fragility of creation.

Ever-loving God,
**Set our feet upon the path of healing.
Let us be your repairers of the breach.
May we go out in joy
and be led forth in peace,
that the mountains and hills
may burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
once more clap their hands.**

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Blessing:

Go in peace and with courage,
singing God's song.
Join the chorus of possibility and renewal.
Grieve what is lost.
Nurture what remains.
Restore what will be,
sowing seeds that will bring life to future generations.
May we see in all things,
the fingerprint of the Holy One,
and may we rejoice;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.
Amen.

Collects:

1. Lord of justice, Lord of peace,
wash the dirt from our feet and the blood from our hands
that we might take our place at your table.
Lead us to the bank of the quiet billabong,
that we might reflect on what it means
to be stewards of profligate beauty.
Strip us of cleverness and easy words.
Re-train our senses to see you
in every scent and sound and touch
of the world you have chosen to love.
Make us less than conquerors,
make us willing to heal.
Through Jesus Christ, Lord of life,
prophet of renewal.
Amen
2. Lord of lamentation, Lord of joy,
break into our hearts with the Word of life.
Lead our feet to the creeks of hope;
lead our hearts to the shining stones of understanding.
Help us to hear your voice in the rills and rivulets,
leaping and dancing in refracted light.
Lift our eyes to the Son
and our hands to praise.
Through Jesus Christ, Lord of life,
prophet of renewal.
Amen

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3. Lord of courage, Lord of awe,
shake the ground beneath our feet,
that we might understand your will and power.
The tumbling might of your grace
thunders like a waterfall.
Still us with your majesty
and draw us in to swim beneath the tumult,
drawn to your depths, rising to breathe glory.
Restore our strength as we work with you
to revive creation.
Through Jesus Christ, Lord of life,
prophet of renewal.
Amen
4. Lord of wholeness, Lord of completion,
may we be granted a vision of creation renewed.
May we not grow weary in doing what is right.
Let your justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
May we be caught in the mighty river of your love,
coming at last to the sea of communion with you.
Renew our strength, that we might soar on wings like eagles;
run and not grow weary, walk and not be faint,
until the world is healed.
Through Jesus Christ, Lord of life,
prophet of renewal.
Amen

Written by the Rev'd Canon Stephen Daughtry
(with thanks to and additions by the Right Rev'd Cameron Venables)
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