

Liturgical Prayers for Reconciliation

Prayers for Gathering

Wise God

you are older than the ages,
and you dance in the sunlight
and you love us.

Wise God

you shared your bread with strangers
and you welcomed little children
and you understand us.

Wise God

you wrestle with the powerful
and you comfort those who need you
and you disturb us.

Wise God

shining in darkness
felt by those who love you
found by those who seek you
we are here to meet with you.

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God of the shadows

sharing our pain and our tears and our struggle

draining the cup of what it is to be human

we watch with you.

God of the night

sharing our fears and our prayers and our restlessness

measuring the road between living and dying

we watch with you.

God of the dawn

sharing the questions we never dare ask you

yearning in us for the light of your glory

we watch with you.

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Prayers of Penitence

Lord Jesus Christ,

we confess that we have failed you as did your first disciples.

We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease rather than watch with you:

Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we bestow a kiss of peace yet nurse enmity in our hearts:

Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we strike at those who hurt us rather than stretch out our hands to bless:

Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

When we deny that we know you for fear of the world and its scorn:

Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

© *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*, Church House Publishing, 2006



God of our hidden depths,

in honest regret, in trust,

we confess our faults and recognise our frailty.

Show us that we are forgiven so that we may forgive;

touch our wounds with Your healing

so that we may be people who heal;

help us to be at peace with ourselves

so that we may become makers of Your peace for others,

through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

© *Celtic Daily Prayer: Book Two*, William Collins, 2015

Prayers of Blessing and Sending

With the love of God

may we be warmed and welcomed.

With the justice of Jesus

may we be challenged and made whole.

With the breath of the Spirit

may we be filled with courage and life.

Amen.

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Come bless us God

bless us with tears and laughter.

Bless us with love.

Come bless us Jesus

bless us with hope and healing.

Bless us with love.

Come bless us Holy Spirit

bless us with creativity and wisdom.

Bless us with love.

Amen.

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May the blessing of God surround us

May angels and friends share our journey

May we be wise and strong and creative

May we celebrate life and hope.

May God's image grow within us

May laughter and courage heal us

May the gospel of life sustain us

All the days of our journey home.

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Prayer for healing of divisions

Gracious God,

You have gathered us here from different places,
different traditions
and with different needs.
Of ourselves, we cannot come with undivided hearts;
unfinished business,
unmended brokenness,
the hurts of the past,
the fears of the present,
our torn and weary world itself
all weigh us down.
But you can lighten our hearts,
revive our spirits
and unite us in glad and hopeful praise,
and so we bless you.

For your forgiveness of the harm that we have done
for your healing of our deepest hurts
for your love drawing us together
we bless you.

For your inspiring of our reconciliation
for your power to rebuild our lives and our communities
for your call to journey on together in faith
we bless you.

And in wholehearted praise, we join to worship you
in the name of Christ our Lord.

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Prayer for Three Voices

Voice 1:

God of justice, keep us silent

when the only words we have to utter
are ones of judgement, exclusion or prejudice.
Teach us to face the wounds in our own hearts.

(Silence)

**God of justice, give us power of speech
to resist injustice, oppression and hate,
not only on our own behalf
but for others who are not heard.
Make us peacemakers and restorers of the streets.**

Voice 2:

God of power, keep us silent
so that we may listen respectfully
to another person's pain
without trying to fade or fix it,
for you are present within each one of us.

(Silence)

**God of power, give us courage
to share our gifts of speech
to comfort, uphold and strengthen.
Let us be a glimpse of your love to those in need.**

Voice 3:

God of love,
in the silence of our hearts
give us words of welcome, acceptance and renewal
so that when we speak
our words come from you.

(Silence)

**God of love, give us voices of praise
to celebrate each other
and the glories of creation
believing that we all live within your blessing.**

