Green Liturgy draft

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

The Word of God

*A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.  
The people standing, the Celebrant says*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. |
| *People* | And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen. |

*The Celebrant may say*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may  
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;

*All:* Amen.

*the following hymn or some other song of praise is  
sung or said, all standing*

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord,

All praise is Yours, all glory, all honour and all blessings.

To you alone, Most High, do they belong,

and no mortal lips are worthy to pronounce Your Name.

Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,  
especially Sir Brother Sun,  
Who is the day through whom You give us light.  
And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,  
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,  
In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,  
And fair and stormy, all weather’s moods,  
by which You cherish all that You have made.

Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,  
So useful, humble, precious and pure.

Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,  
through whom You light the night

and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.

Praised be You my Lord through our Sister,  
Mother Earth  
who sustains and governs us,  
producing varied fruits with colored flowers and herbs.

Praise be You my Lord through those who grant pardon for love of You and bear sickness and trial.

Blessed are those who endure in peace,

By You Most High, they will be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord through Sister Death,  
from whom no-one living can escape.

Woe to those who die in mortal sin!

Blessed are they She finds doing Your Will.

No second death can do them harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks,  
And serve Him with great humility.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Amen.

The Collect of the Day

*The Celebrant says to the people*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Lord be with you. |
| *People* | And also with you. |
| *Celebrant* | Let us pray. |

*The Celebrant says the Collect.*

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the  
needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for  
your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the  
account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards  
of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with  
you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever  
and ever.[[2]](#footnote-2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *People* | Amen. |

The Lessons

*The people sit. The Reader first saying*

A Reading (Lesson) from                                      .

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

*After each Reading, the Reader may say*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Word of the Lord. |
| *People* | Thanks be to God. |

Psalm65

*Silence may follow*

Colossians 1:15-23

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. |
| *People* | Glory to you, Lord Christ. |

St. Matthew 6:25-34 or St. John 1:1-5

*After the Gospel, the Reader says*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The Gospel of the Lord. |
| *People* | Praise to you, Lord Christ. |

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

*All standing, and say together,*

We believe in one God,  
    the Father, the Almighty,  
    maker of heaven and earth,  
    of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
    the only Son of God,  
    eternally begotten of the Father,  
    God from God, Light from Light,  
    true God from true God,  
    begotten, not made,  
    of one Being with the Father.  
    Through him all things were made.  
    For us and for our salvation  
        he came down from heaven:  
    by the power of the Holy Spirit  
        he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
        and was made man.  
    For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
        he suffered death and was buried.  
        On the third day he rose again  
            in accordance with the Scriptures;  
        he ascended into heaven  
           and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

   He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
        and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
    With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
    He has spoken through the Prophets.  
    We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
    We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
    We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
        and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Prayer 1[[3]](#footnote-3)

Creator God, whose art and beauty are evident in every molecule of Creation, You made the universe - planets and solar systems, earth-home, plants, creatures - and called it good.

You made human life the pinnacle of that work, even choosing to incarnate that work in the Person of Jesus; and giving humanity those great and terrible gifts: choice and dominion.  
  
  
We have regarded your Creation only as a resource to be spent, not as a gift to be stewarded.  
We have polluted air, water, and land.  
We have destroyed ecosystems and species.  
We have exploited and razed entire sections of earth.  
We have created mountains of unnecessary waste.  
We have valued material wealth and convenience above the health of our bodies and those under our care.  
We have forgotten our own temporality, that other generations will come after us needing a home.  
We have forgotten that You created life and it is precious.

Where we should have stewarded, we exploited.  
Where we should have protected, we left vulnerable.  
Where we should have respected, we chose to disregard.

Grant that we may come to a new hope and understanding of Your Creation, our relationship with it, and our role within it.  
Grant that we may find ways to participate in its healing and renewal.  
Grant that we may become willing to develop new habits and ways of interacting with the world, that consider its beauty and welfare.  
Grant that we may re-imagine prosperity, economy, and civilization in light of stewardship of Creation.  
Grant that we may more deeply understand Your nature through your Creation.  
Grant that we may more deeply understand the interdependence of humanity and earth.  
Grant that we may extend the work of Christ on the cross to a creation groaning and waiting expectantly.  
Grant that we may have a renewed hope for the future of Creation - redeemed, reconciled, restored to its proper place and function.

May gratitude and the love of Christ govern our every interaction with humans, creatures, and the earth.

Amen.

Prayer 2[[4]](#footnote-4)

God of the whole human race,

You have given us responsibility to care for each other. But we have exploited and hated each other by our wickedness. We turn to you in sorrow and repentance. Please help us to look to you and care for each other.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer***.

O God of creation.   
You have created land for us to make our gardens and for trees, animals and all living creatures on the earth. Forgive us for our destruction of the land by logging and poisonous chemicals. We turn to you in sorrow and repentance. Help us O Lord to care for the land that you have given us.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer.***

God of the universe, the ocean and of love.  
You have given us the ocean for fish, shells, reefs, whales, waves, corals, and for ships and boats. We have destroyed the ocean and everything in it, and not cared for it. We turn to you in sorrow and repentance. Please help us to care for the ocean, and to recognise that it is your blessing for us.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer.***

God of the forest, in which all living things survive and engage their life and move peacefully.  
You have given us wisdom, knowledge and understanding to use our resources well in a manageable manner. We have been careless, short-sighted, and selfish and failed to share with other people throughout the world. We turn to you in sorrow and repentance.

Please help us to think positively of your goodness and loving kindness. Please help us to see the needs of others as you have seen us living in your beautiful forest.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer.***

God of the universe, the God who created the atmosphere.

By your power of creation you made the sky so beautiful, the sun to give us light during the day and the moon and the stars to give light during the night. You have given us clouds to bring rain and give life to your creatures. Lord, we turn to you with a penitent heart for all the destructions we have caused to the atmosphere.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer.***

Merciful God, God of love and everything in this world.

You have created the rain, winds, storms, cyclones, earthquakes, volcanoes and floods to renew your creation. Help us to understand their existence in your world.

We turn to you in sorrow and repentance. Please, Father, forgive us for the human activities which have overpowered the weather and caused destruction of our environment.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* **Hear our prayer.**

God you are our creator, the source of all wisdom and power. You have created humans and animals and you have appointed us humans to be responsible for them.

Forgive us who destroy your creatures. We turn to you in sorrow and repentance. Help us Lord to love and to care for them as you care for us.

Lord in your mercy,  
*All:* ***Hear our prayer.***

*Also add,*

Eternal God,  
whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life;   
by that same Spirit, renew your creation, and restore your image in your people.  
Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards,  
that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth  
may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life  
and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works;  
through Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed.  
***Amen***.[[5]](#footnote-5)

Prayer 3[[6]](#footnote-6)

God the Creator of all, ***have mercy upon us***.

God the Incarnate Word, present in Creation from the beginning, ***have mercy on us***. God the Spirit of truth and forgiveness, ***have mercy on us***.

Holy Trinity, divine community, ***have mercy on us***.

We come before you in this time of deepening social and climate crisis to confess our complicity and inaction, to pray for those most severely affected, and to ask for the courage and perseverance to be diligent in prayer, in seeking truth, in allowing ourselves to be transformed, and in acting with Spirit-led wisdom for the good of our human and non-human siblings.

***Hear us, gracious God***.

We confess that we have not valued your air, which sustains every breath, and have instead polluted it with toxic chemicals and waste products, especially concentrated where Black and brown bodies live. We have filled the air with extra carbon, which is causing catastrophic climate changes and global heating.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have wasted and polluted water, the drink of life and main substance in our bodies. We have discharged heavy metals into the seas and rivers, choked them with fertilizer and manure run-off, clogged the oceans with plastic, and poisoned our most vulnerable children with industrial chemicals and lead-filled water from old pipes.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have abused the soil, the Earth mother who teems with life and provides food for all land creatures. We have squandered her, allowing her to blow away, killing her vitality with chemical pesticides and fertilizers, depleting her by overuse and greed. We have abandoned and buried toxic and radioactive waste in her; we have stolen her from indigenous people who loved and tended her with care.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have scorned and devalued the simplest organisms—bacteria, algae, and fungi—without which we could not live, and the myriads of insects, worms, and spiders that pollinate our food, aerate our soil, and recycle dead organisms into rich soil. Instead, we have responded with loathing, drugs and chemicals to kill them off. ***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have turned your diverse, interconnected Eden into sterile monocrops of bioengineered food items and grass lawns. We have ravaged the forests for cheap paper and wood, and leveled rainforests to grow meat cattle.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have slaughtered large animals for economic gain, out of fear, and for sport or hatred of those who depend on them—wolves, whales, bison, bears—and have slaughtered or poisoned small mammals and rodents when they seem bothersome or inconvenient—skunks, mice, rats, squirrels, moles.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have caused the deaths of many millions of birds, reptiles, amphibians and water creatures and wiped out countless species, due to loss of habitat and food, overfishing, and pollution.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we instead of cherishing and learning from the indigenous peoples who have lived in harmony to Creation, we have systematically worked to destroy them, their cultures and knowledge and to claim the land they lived from as our own. We continue to allow this destruction of lands, waters, and sovereignty on native lands.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have dominated, enslaved and exploited the bodies, land, and resources of our human siblings in this country and around the world for economic gain, especially those of Black of brown bodies, despoiling their lives and leaving behind poverty and environmental disaster for our cheap crops and goods. We continue to allow this even in our local communities.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

We confess that we have not loved our own God-given bodies, believing ourselves to be separate from the created order, looking for ease and comfort instead of rigorous use, looking to satisfy our hungers with possessions instead of relationship to your perfect world and busyness instead of attunement to the rhythms of Creation.

***Have mercy on us, merciful God.***

Free us from the gods of greed, wealth, and private property and the heresy of believing that what we own is ours to use or abuse and not yours, to respect, share and give away for the benefit and blessing of all. Gracious God, deliver us.

Free us from the idols of comfort and ease, of speed and productivity that lead us to violate relationships and ignore the needs and well-being of our own and other’s bodies.

Gracious God, deliver us. Free us from our inability to face the truth and give us the grace to grieve together for what we have lost and despoiled.

***Gracious God, deliver us.***

Free us from despair and paralyzing fear, and the privilege of caring only about our own well-being while others suffer.

Free us from the lie that we are separate from our human and non-human siblings; lead us into deep and reciprocal relationships so that we know viscerally that we are one with all life.

For those most directly affected by rising temperatures, rising seas, adverse weather events, drought and climate migration, we pray, especially those you now name . . .

***Hear us, O God of life.***

For species at risk of extinction, including our own, especially those you now name . . . ***Hear us, O God of life.***

For frontline communities, most heavily impacted by environmental injustice and climate crises, for the many organizers, leaders and people standing up for justice, health and equity, we pray, especially those you now name. . .

***Hear us, O God of life.***

That we may have a renewed and restored relationship to all of Creation, we pray,

***Hear us, O God of life.***

That we may persevere in prayer, in spiritual discipline and grounding; that we may cling to the hope of resurrection in the face of evil and death and hold up one another in that hope,

That we may be filled with the courage to change and the commitment to act, being willing to use whatever skills, resources, and energy we have to do this life-giving work.

That we may have the strength to build community and the humility to learn to rely on one another, especially listening to the young, the poor, and those who have historically been silenced,

That we may become mighty leaders in our own local communities, and mighty advocates for generations yet unborn,

For . . . . .

Child of God, we ask you to hear us.

***Child of God, we ask you to hear us.***

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

***Have mercy on us.***

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

***Have mercy on us.***

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

***Grant us peace.***

Confession: Stewardship of creation[[7]](#footnote-7)

*The Deacon or Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbor, and the world around us.

*Silence may be kept.*

*All:* Holy God, Creator and Lover of all that is, we confess to you that we have sinned. We have failed in our care for the land and its creatures, we have been greedy, destructive, and wasteful of the resources you entrusted to us. Polluted air and water, eroded soil and salty earth, birds and animals deprived of habitat, and neighbours left hungry and thirsty by our selfishness: all these cry out against us. We do not know how to restore what we have damaged, and we repent in sorrow and distress. Forgive us, we pray, and have mercy. Give us grace to change our ways, to make amends, and to work together for the healing of the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silence may be kept.*

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says,*

Our Saviour died and rose again so that for all who live in him there is a new creation. Therefore I declare to you: your sins are forgiven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*All:* Send out your Spirit, O Lord.

Renew the hearts of your people.

Renew the face of the earth.

The Peace

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The peace of the Lord be always with you. |
| *People* | And also with you. |

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the  
name of the Lord.*

The Holy Communion

*The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

*During the Offertory, a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.  
  
Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread  
and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The  
people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

The Great Thanksgiving[[8]](#footnote-8)

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest,  
faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

*All:* We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God, eternal Wisdom, all you have made is beautiful and good. We thank you for darkness and light, for this earth and for our bodies, for growth and change and all that lies beyond our knowledge and imagination.

In every generation you befriend your people. You gave us your holy Law, sent the prophets, and called us back to the truth whenever we turned away.

You were vindicated in your servant Jesus who came with forgiveness, feasting, and stories of your grace. Though we rejected him, death on a cross could not quench the fire of his love. You gave him back to us, the Risen One, to build a new community of hope where all are honoured as Christ’s equal friends.

And so we praise you with Mary, mother of the living Word, and with all your faithful friends, as we join the angels’ song:

*Celebrant and People*

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.

God of the feast, your household is hungry for the bread of heaven and the cup of life. Send your Spirit on us and on our celebration, so that we may eat at this table and be satisfied with the sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.

On the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with the people he loved. He took the bread, gave you thanks, broke it to share with them, and said: “Take and eat this: it is my body.”

Then he took a cup of wine. Again he thanked you and told them: “Drink this, all of you: it is my blood, shed for you and for many so that sins may be forgiven. Whenever you do this, do it in memory of me.”

So we delight to remember Jesus: the faithfulness of his life, the victory of his cross, the glory of his resurrection, the joy of the Holy Spirit poured out for the Church. We proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All:*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O holy Wisdom, merciful and generous, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Make us good stewards of creation, with justice in our hearts, courage in our actions and power in our speech to bear witness to the truth. Protect us with your glory, unite your church in loyalty and love, and bring us home with all your saints to feast with you for ever. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, and in the Spirit’s grace, with heart and soul and mind and strength we love and worship you alone, O God, for ever and ever. Amen.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, | As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, |
| Our Father, who art in heaven,     hallowed be thy Name,     thy kingdom come,     thy will be done,         on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,     as we forgive those         who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation,     but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,     and the power, and the glory,     for ever and ever. Amen. | Our Father in heaven,     hallowed be your Name,     your kingdom come,     your will be done,         on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins     as we forgive those         who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial,     and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,     and the glory are yours,     now and for ever. Amen. |

The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.  
  
A period of silence is kept.*

*Then may be sung or said*

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]*

*In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except  
during Easter Season.  
  
Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The gifts of God for the people of God.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *and may add* | Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. |

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately  
deliver it to the people.  
  
The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in  
everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

*or with these words*

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [*Amen.*]  
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [*Amen.*]

*During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may  
be sung.  
  
When necessary, the Celebrant consecrates additional bread and wine,  
using the form on page*[*408*](https://www.bcponline.org/HE/adddirect.html#Additional%20Consecration)*.*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.  
  
The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words*

Go, in strong and growing faith. Trust in the tenderness of Christ to heal a bruised and broken world.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

Go, in eager and refreshing hope. Work with Christ risen from the dead, to fulfill the promise of a new creation.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

Go, in costly and courageous love. Proclaim the power of Christ to cleanse a defiled and disfigured world.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

*Parting Words*

All: Might I behold You.

Might I know You.

Might I consider You.

Might I understand You.

O Lord of the Universe.[[9]](#footnote-9)

1. Canticle to Brother Sun, St. Francis. <https://ignatiansolidarity.net/blog/2015/06/04/canticle-of-brother-sun-and-sister-moon-of-st-francis-of-assisi/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. BCP, Collect, for stewardship of creation, page 259. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. # Adapted from [Litany for Creation Care](http://www.franpratt.com/litanies/2015/12/28/litany-for-creation-care), Fran Pratt, <http://www.franpratt.com/litanies/2015/12/28/litany-for-creation-care>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Adapted from the “Litany of Environmental Lament and Repentance From Melanesia”, Melanesian Brotherhood, Society of St Francis, Community of the Sisters of the Church, Community of the Sisters of Melanesia.

   <http://www.mmuk.net/news/litany-of-environmental-lament-and-repentance-from-melanesia> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Rt Rev’d Libby Lane, Bishop of Stockport, Prayers for World Environment Day, <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers/prayers-world-environment-day> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The Rev. M. L. Hildebrandt, Diocese of Massachusetts.

   <https://www.diomass.org/sites/diomass/files/attachments/Great%20Litany%20of%20Creation.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
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8. © The Anglican Church of Australia. This text may be reproduced for use in worship in the Anglican Church of Australia when authorised by a diocesan Bishop for trial use under section 4 of the Constitution. <https://acen.anglicancommunion.org/media/61516/Great-Thanksgiving-Second-Order-APBA-form-Wisdom-in-Creation-theme.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. An Inca prayer; from Terri Jean, *365 Days of Walking the Red Road*, Adams Media, New York, 2003, for November 20. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)