

Propers for a Eucharist on the Theme of Social Justice and Responsibility

Invitation to Confession

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world:
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil distortions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for all his children.

Kyrie Confession

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city.
On our world [*city/town/nation*]: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division,
jealousy and bitterness.

On us: Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner.
Grant us peace: Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive *us our* sins,
open *our* eyes to God's truth,
strengthen *us* to do God's will
and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect

O God, the King of righteousness,
lead us, we pray, in ways of justice and peace;
inspire us to break down all tyranny and oppression,
to gain for everyone their due reward
and from everyone their due service,
that each may live for all,
and all may care for each;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Readings

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

I hate, I despise your festivals,
says the LORD,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5.21–24

This is the word of the Lord.

The Lord keeps his promise for ever.

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong
and bread to those who hunger.

The Lord keeps his promise for ever.

The Lord looses those that are bound;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous;

The Lord keeps his promise for ever.

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land;
he upholds the orphan and widow;
but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.
The Lord shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Alleluia.

The Lord keeps his promise for ever.

Psalm 146.4–10

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

‘Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.’

Matthew 5.1–12

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Introduction to the Peace

Jesus said: ‘Love one another.

As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.’

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;
draw us from hatred to love;
make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.

Preface

And now we give you thanks,
because you have anointed your Son as the Messiah,
the light of the nations,
and revealed him as the hope of all who thirst for
righteousness and peace.

Extended Preface

Living God, Father of light,
hope of nations, friend of sinners,
builder of the city that is to come:
your love is made visible in Jesus Christ,
you bring home the lost, restore the sinner
and give dignity to the despised.
In the face of Jesus Christ
your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one a divided and broken humanity.
With people from every race and nation,
with the Church of all the ages,
with apostles, evangelists and martyrs,
we join the angels of heaven in their unending song:

Post Communion

Blessed God,
help us, whom you have fed and satisfied in this eucharist,
to hunger and thirst for what is right;
help us, who here have rejoiced and been glad,
to stand with those who are persecuted and reviled;
help us, who here have glimpsed the life of heaven,
to strive for the cause of right
and for the coming of the kingdom of Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Blessing

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Readings and Post Communion from *Common Worship: Festivals*, pp. 364–365 ('Social Justice and Responsibility'); Invitation to Confession, Kyrie Confession, Prayer at the Preparation of the Table, Preface, and Extended Preface from *Common Worship: Festivals*, pp. 353–356 ('The Peace of the World'); Absolution and Introduction to the Peace from *Common Worship: New Patterns for Worship*, pp. 97, 276; Blessing from *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*, p. 135 ('Epiphany'); and Collect from Simon Jones, *At All Times and in All Places* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2014), p. 106.