A SIMPLE EVENING LITURGY

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Opening Responses

Leader: Peace on each one who comes in need.

ALL: PEACE ON EACH ONE WHO COMES IN JOY.

Leader: Peace on each one who offers prayers.

ALL: PEACE ON EACH ONE WHO OFFERS SONG.

Leader: Peace of the Maker, Peace of the Son.

ALL: PEACE OF THE SPIRIT, THE TRIUNE ONE.

Prayer

Leader: O God, for your love for us, warm and brooding,

which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes

to the wonder and beauty of creation.

ALL: WE GIVE YOU THANKS

Leader: For your love for us, wild and freeing,

which has wakened us to the energy of creation:

to the sap that flows the blood that pulses, the heart that sings.

ALL: WE GIVE YOU THANKS

Leader: For your love for us, compassionate and patient,

which has carried us through our pain,

wept beside us in our sin,

and waited with us in our confusion.

ALL: WE GIVE YOU THANKS.

Leader: For your love for us, strong and challenging,

which has called us to risk for you,

asked for the best in us, and shown us how to serve.

ALL: WE GIVE YOU THANKS

Leader: O God, we come to celebrate

that your Holy Spirit is present deep within us, and at the heart of all life. Forgive us when we forget your gift of love made known to us in Jesus, and draw us into your presence.

The word of God - Ephesians Chapter 2: 1-10 ESV

2 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Reflection

Prayers of concern

Leader: We bring to God

someone we have met or remembered today

and for whom we want to pray

ALL: O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Leader: We bring to God

someone who is hurting tonight and needs our prayer

ALL: O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Leader: We bring to God

a troubled situation in our world tonight.

ALL: O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Leader: We bring to God, silently,

someone we find hard to forgive or trust.

ALL: O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Leader: We bring ourselves to God,

that we might grow in generosity of spirit, clarity of mind, and warmth of affection

ALL: O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER

Closing Responses

Leader: O Trinity of Love,

You have been with us at the world's beginning.

ALL: BE WITH US TILL THE WORLD'S END.

Leader: You have been with us at our life's shaping.

ALL: BE WITH US TILL THE DAY'S END.

AMEN.

Final Prayer

Leader: The Prayer of St. Columba

Be a bright flame before me, O God a guiding star above me.

Be a smooth path below me, a kindly shepherd behind me today, tonight, and for ever.

Alone with none but you, my God I journey on my way; what need I fear when you are near, O Lord of night and day?

More secure am I within your hand than if a multitude did round me stand.

AMEN

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