

# Prayers for the Season of Creation: Week 4

## Notes

- The confession is written to be said by the congregation.
- The assurance of forgiveness is written in such a way that it can be said by the priest or by the congregation.
- The blessing has a you/us alternative.
- He/they and his/their are offered as alternative forms when God is invoked.

## Approach

L: We gather in the name of One

V1: who listens faithfully for those who cry out

V2: and offers both comfort and challenge.

All: Let us call on God together.

L: We gather in the name of One

V1: who waits patiently for those who are searching

V2: and meets them on the way.

All: Let us seek out God together.

L: We gather in the name of One

V1: who reaches out to those in need

V2: and who fills them with good things.

All: Let us open our hearts together.

## Thanksgiving

God,

we give thanks

for the faithfulness of your listening

the patience of your waiting

and the generosity of your giving.

Thank you

that your justice can never be constrained

nor your love ever limited

by our smallness

of thought or action.

Amen.

## **Confession**

*(to be said together)*

God of challenge and change -  
where we have let attachment  
to our own comfort and convenience  
deter us from committing to the costly transitions  
needed for the wellbeing of our planet  
and the flourishing of all its inhabitants  
forgive us  
and free us to move forward.

God of compassion and concern -  
where we have let attachment  
to our own understandings of justice  
deter us from taking the discomfoting paths  
needed for the wellbeing of our planet  
and the flourishing of all its inhabitants  
forgive us  
and free us to move forward.

God of generosity and grace  
where we have let attachment  
to our own sense of hierarchy and entitlement  
deter us from making the difficult shifts  
needed for the wellbeing of our planet  
and the flourishing of all its inhabitants  
forgive us  
and free us to move forward.

## **Assurance of forgiveness**

*(can be said by leader or by congregation together)*

May the God of compassion and concern  
give you/us confidence  
in the generosity of his/their forgiveness;

and, out the abundance of his/their grace  
help you/us, as we begin again  
to grow in the courage, love and generosity

which are the hallmarks of his/their kingdom.  
Amen.

### **Collect**

God the unfettered,  
you are not restricted  
by human patterns of thought and action.  
Help us to escape  
the reflex habits which constrain us  
and embrace instead  
the expansive patterns of your Kingdom,  
that we may become  
agents of change and healing  
in this world which you love.  
Amen

### **Blessing**

May the blessings of the God of change  
be yours/ours -  
the expansive blessing of thinking differently  
the empowering blessing of acting boldly  
the encouraging blessing of transformation and change -

and may these blessings  
flow out through you/us  
to bless the world  
God made and loves.  
Amen