



## LITURGICAL RESOURCES from around the world for Harvest





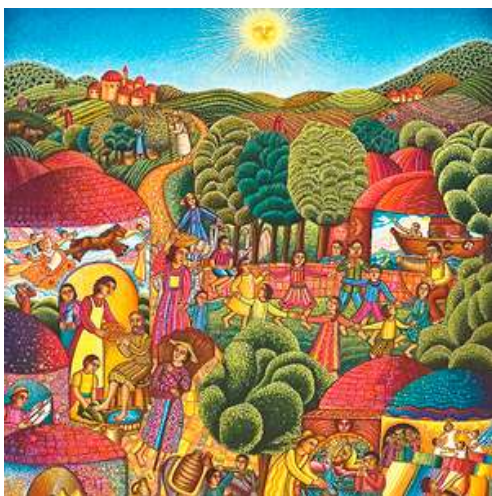
*Lord, send out your Spirit  
and renew the face of the Earth*

# Introduction

While Zimbabwe is on the way to reducing HIV and AIDS, many of those who live with HIV still face stigma around disclosing their status. To support local people, the Church of Zimbabwe's Stigma Reduction Programme trains church leaders on issues of HIV and has created wellness groups that provide a network to people living with HIV. As well as emotional support, they offer access to food gardens to improve nutrition and help with developing sustainable livelihoods.

People living with HIV are facing the problem of food shortages during the Coronavirus pandemic. Food insecurity brings additional negative effects as good nutrition is a key factor for adherence to Antiretroviral (ARV) therapy. This may increase the rate of progression to AIDS and further exacerbate the level of stigma and discrimination. 848 people living with HIV are now participating in the wellness groups and this has been transformational for those in the programme.

This Harvest we are raising funds for projects including the wellness gardens in Zimbabwe. You can find information here: <https://www.uspg.org.uk/harvest/>



**Rámond Mitchell**

Volunteer & Education Coordinator  
USPG

[ramondm@uspg.org.uk](mailto:ramondm@uspg.org.uk)

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# *Collects and Intercessions*

Lord of the harvest,  
make us faithful stewards in the labour  
you have called us to share,  
planting and cultivating, planning and protecting,  
and offering to you the return that you require,  
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
and in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

God of the heavens and the earth,  
You call us to share in the care of your creation  
and to bring food and fruitfulness from field and farm.  
Hear our prayer for all who make their living on the land  
and make us grateful for the work of their hands  
and for the generosity of your provision.  
We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Almighty Creator God,  
In your hands are the seeds of life  
and you have blessed us abundantly.  
May we in whom the seeds have grown  
bear the fruits of love and generosity;  
May we sow that others may reap  
and rejoice in a harvest of plenty;  
For the sake of your son,  
our saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Loving God, Lord of heaven and earth,  
this earth, our home, belongs to you.  
Give us grace to love it as you do.  
Give us courage to give ourselves, as you do,  
for the good of all people and all of your creation.  
Strengthen us to stand, as you do,  
with the vulnerable poor.  
Give us wisdom to know when we have enough,  
and the voice to say “enough” to all  
that harms creation and hurts the poorest.  
This earth, our home, belongs to you.  
**Amen.**

## **Striving to Safeguard the integrity of creation and sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.**

Creator Spirit, move amongst us again  
with your power for life,  
and overturn humanity's deathly urge.  
restore us as inheritors and guardians  
of this good earth we have dared to call our own.  
and show us the way to live in care of it  
for our children's children and your love's sake.  
**Amen.**

## **The Land**

Land-giver God,  
who gave us this good earth as our home,  
may we so revere the gift and you the giver  
that the delights of the life abundant will  
always be ours;  
we ask it in the name of Jesus who died  
that we may truly live.  
**Amen.**

## **Responsive Prayers**

For every good gift in creation, for its diversity and dignity and glory:

**We give you thanks.**

For threatened species and habitats, for all creatures on the brink:

**We ask your grace and protection.**

For seeking to live without limits, and failing to see how our lives affect all in the community of creation:

**We ask your forgiveness and correction.**

For the beauty and diversity of the family of faith:

**We give you thanks.**

For all those who struggle and are weary, who suffer and are oppressed:

**We ask your grace and protection.**

For the indifference or ignorance or busyness that stops us responding with mercy and justice to our brothers and sisters in need:

**We ask your forgiveness and correction.**

For every opportunity to do good, to share abundantly, and to live a little more in tune with your whole-hearted hospitality:

**We give you thanks.**

When we are worn down, tired out or broken apart by the weight of our own struggles and failures:

**We ask your grace and protection.**

For the times we do not heed your call to walk the road of discipleship with your son, Jesus:

**We ask your grace and protection.**



This we know: the earth does not belong to us.  
**The earth is the Lord's and so are all its people.**

This we know: we did not weave the web of life.  
**The earth is the Lord's and so is all that breathes on it.**

This we know: we are called to till and work the earth.  
**The earth is the Lord's and so are all who work the land.**

This we know: that we are called to take care of creation.  
**The earth is the Lord's yet we have polluted and abused it.**

This we know: that whatever befalls the earth,  
**Befalls the sons and daughters of the earth**

This we know: that the earth is the Lord's.  
**And so we will serve Him in it. Amen**

*-Bishop Eric Pike, Diocese of Port Elizabeth (South Africa): adapted*

## A Collect for Creation

Source of all life,  
we give thanks to you for your wondrous creation  
made manifest in the environment that surrounds us;  
strengthen us in the mission of stewardship  
and care towards nature, the work of your hands,  
encouraging us to preserve life in all its precious forms.  
All this we ask through Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Revd Luiz Coelho – Brazil*



*‘evening came and morning followed’*

## **Intercessions for Harvest**

This is Christ's commandment: to love one another as he loved us. With contrite spirits and respect for all humanity, let us pray to God that we may learn to care for not only our brothers and sisters, but for all God's creation shown forth in the wonder of nature that maintains our common life.

(Remembering *N*,) Have compassion on all who suffer from trials and pain, especially the victims of natural disasters caused by our own greed and negligence. Grant them their needed relief and the help of your children in their daily struggles.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***

Kindle the hearts of the leaders in your Church; especially *N*, our bishop, *N*, our priest, and all other ministers. Reveal in them the example of your Christ, who revered and cared for the fullness of your creation.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***

Inspire all civil authorities to dedicate their resources and efforts to the building of a better world for all your people. May they govern with respect and balance toward nature through policies that seek to relieve the environmental calamity that surrounds us.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***

(Remembering *N*,) Have mercy on your children suffering from illness, granting them healing and comfort from their afflictions. Equip us to serve all who are ill as we would serve Christ.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***



(Remembering *N*,) Bring to your glorious presence all those faithful who have departed this world with faith in Jesus Christ. Grant them eternal rest in the company of the Virgin Mary, apostles, martyrs, and all your saints.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***

Receive the prayers we now offer you as a sign of our immense gratitude (for *N*,) for the many blessings you have given us, and above all for the life in nature that continues to flourish despite our carelessness. Grant that we may return your love in acts of charity and compassion toward the world that you created and all of its creatures.

***Inspire us to love the whole of creation.***

*The president concludes with the following Collect:*

Creator of all, whose Son came to reconcile all creation to you: inspire in us a reverence for your creatures in this world and accept the prayers that we now offer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

*Revd Luiz Coelho – Brazil*

Creator God, You made the goodness of the land,  
the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons;  
As we thank you for the harvest may we cherish  
and respect this planet and its peoples,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God our Creator,  
You have made us one with this earth,  
to tend it and to bring forth fruit;  
May we so respect and cherish all  
that has life from you that we may share  
in the labour of all creation to give birth  
to your hidden glory, Through Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Loving Creator God,  
The whole earth proclaims your glory.  
Everywhere we look we see your handiwork.  
Help us to enjoy the earth gently  
and to work so that all may be fed.  
We pray for those who work the land  
both nearby and in different countries  
May they receive a just reward for their labour  
and may their work both as food producers  
and stewards of the land be honoured.  
In Jesus' name. **Amen**



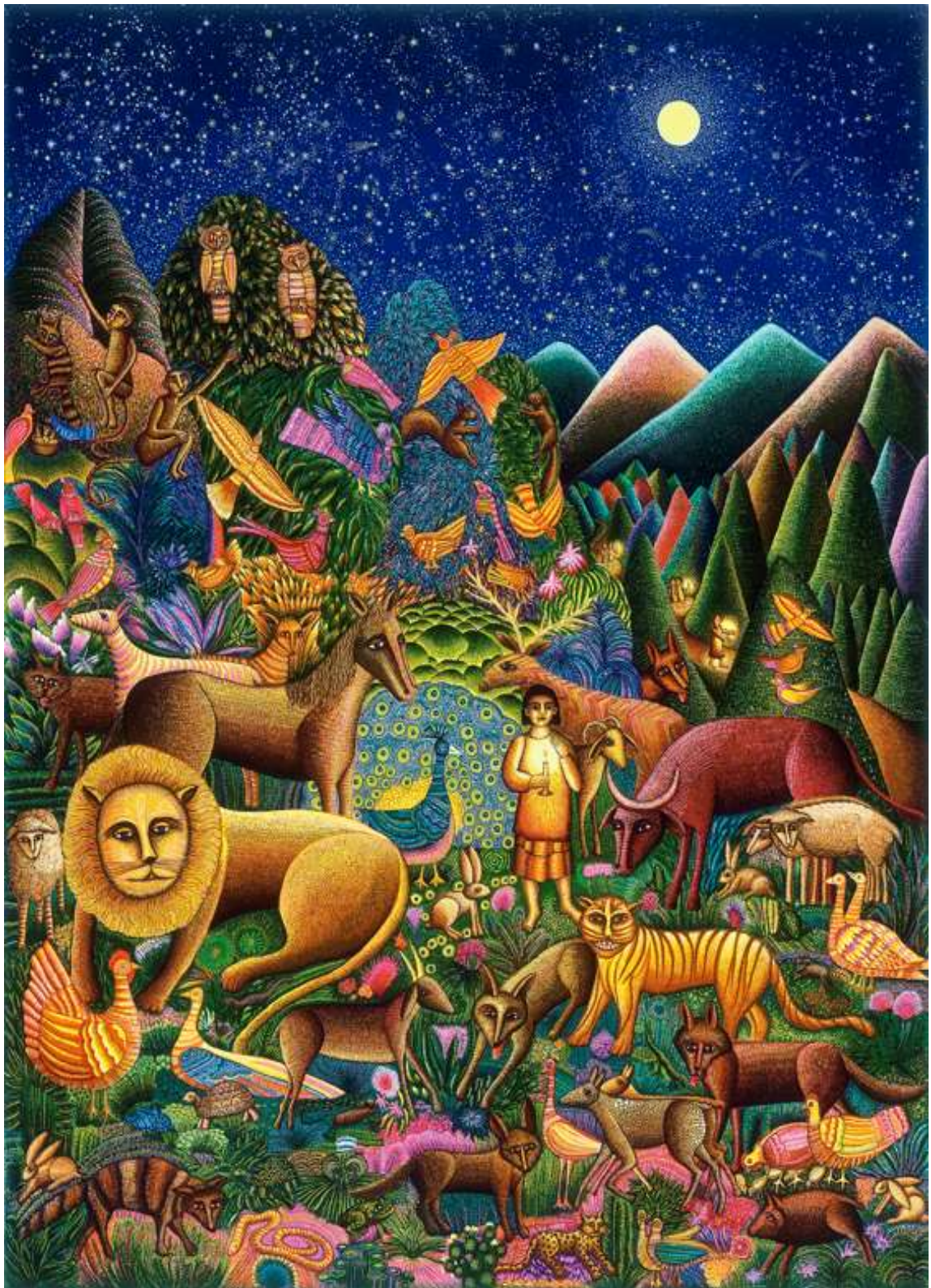
## **Praise and Thanksgiving**

As we celebrate our plenty and give thanks for our food,  
Father we praise you for all you have done and for all you have given.

For shelves that are laden and cupboards that are full.  
For food available, varied, and affordable for taste and for flavour,  
for a healthy appetite and the means to satisfy it.  
For all that is symbolised in this Harvest Service  
Creator and Sustainer of all,  
**We thank and praise you.**

For Provider and Producer,  
God and farmer working together in harmony.  
For all in the food chain from field to factory,  
retailer to consumer, each one depending on the others.  
Creator and Sustainer of all,  
**We thank and praise you.**

For our countryside; Fertile, diverse and beautiful,  
supplying so much of what we need;  
Our food, our water, crops for industry,  
energy and medicine. Source of our leisure, relaxation and renewal.  
Creator and Sustainer of all,  
**We thank and praise you. Amen**



# *Eucharistic Prayers*

## Eucharistic Prayer for Creation

### *The President says*

It is meet and right to give thanks to you always, O God, for you are the source of all life. Since the beginning of time, you have sustained us through the environment that you established in creation. You rule the universe with balance and generosity, for which all creation never ceases to praise you. Joining with the company of heaven and all the creatures of the skies, earth, and seas, we joyfully praise your holy name, singing (saying)

### *Sanctus*

### *The President continues*

O God, our creator, you placed us in this world, but did not leave us to live alone. You surrounded us with your wondrous creation that we might live in harmony with it, taking only what is necessary to preserve our common life. Of the world you made a garden for the flourishing of your people, yet we strayed from your path. We judged ourselves powerful and mighty, planting destruction between us and nature, and creating a world of inequity, imbalance, and discontent. Countless times, your prophets led us to repentance and new life, yet we chose to walk in other ways and persist in our selfish error.

In the fullness of time and in your infinite mercy, you sent us your Son Jesus Christ, the source of new life. He taught us to live in unity with you, opening the doors to a new creation: one reconciled to you and sustained by your love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread. Having given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to those who were with him, saying, "Take, eat. This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, and having given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, "Take, drink. This is my Blood of the new and eternal Covenant which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the wondrous mystery:

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***



And, giving thanks to you for restoring us in the ways of your Kingdom, we offer you these gifts of bread and wine: fruits of the earth and of your creation. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that in union with Christ we may fill the world with your love, renewing it with the gift of your Gospel.

Preserve us in rebuilding the world around us and restoring the balance of nature. Grant that we may see in your creation that splendid garden, worthy of respect and care. Evermore strengthen your Church in the struggle to preserve the environment and the diversity of life within it. And, at the last day, bring us to your heavenly Kingdom, where in the company of (N and) all your saints, we may never cease to glorify you in the new creation of Jesus Christ.

By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. *Amen.*

*Revd Luiz Coelho – Brazil*  
*Edited by Christopher Lee Schwenk*



## Eucharistic Prayer for Harvest

### *The President says*

You spoke the Word and all that is in heaven and on the earth, all things, came to be. Your Spirit hovered over the primal elements, and you brought forth life in forms innumerable, including this our fragile earth, and we amongst its inhabitants. As our past is in you, so our hope for the future rests with you. As we have turned from your way, so we turn again to the warmth of your love. Through you all things are brought to new life.

And now we give you thanks for the glories of your creation given into our care, and for the opportunities we have to share that richness with all your people. And so with the wonders of creation and the songs of praise of all your creatures both in heaven and on earth we praise you now and for ever saying:

### *Sanctus*

In the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, work of human hands, gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God. He broke the bread to speak to us of the breaking of his body upon the cross. He gave it to his friends and said: Take and eat, for this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

He took the wine, work of human hands, gift of our earth, and gave thanks to God, Creator. He poured out the wine to speak to us of the pouring out of his blood. He gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me. So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died Christ is risen Christ will come again.***

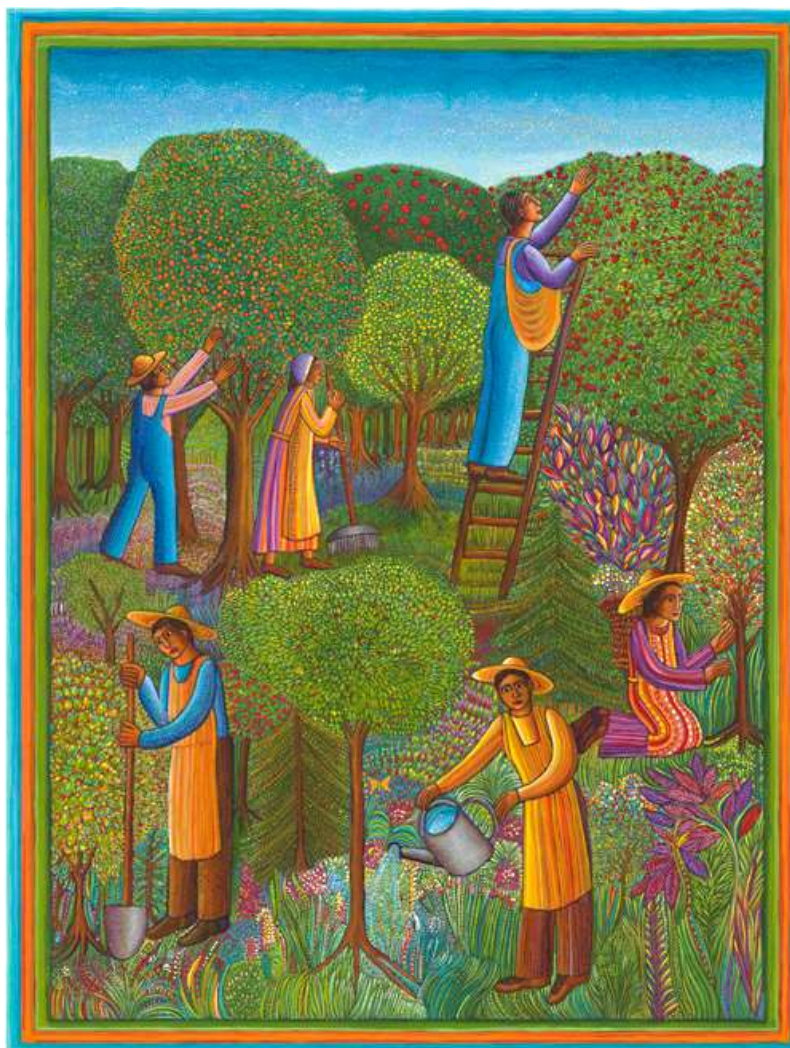
Therefore God, we who seek your reconciliation; we who need reconciliation one with another; we who hope for reconciliation with all creation, draw close to this mystery. In being broken, spilt and buried, life sprang forth again. In the breaking, there is an opening up; in the spilling, there are the roots of sharing; in death and burial, there is the seed of the new life to come.

As we look in our world, in our lives, and in our hearts, for his second coming, keep us close to this vision that we have seen.

Through the giving in the bread and wine, reconcile us to our world and give us the broken oneness, the spilt unity, and the buried resurrection by which we can restore your creation and fulfil your will. Send upon us, and upon all your creation, the life-giving Spirit who first moved upon the waters of the deep. Stir in us the creative and redeem the destructive. Unite us with you through the body and blood of your Son, your Word made flesh as your Word has made flesh. By whom, and with whom and in whom, in the unity of your Creative Spirit, with all that has been, is, and will be in your universe, we stand before you and worship you, God of all, in songs of everlasting praise,

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen**

*-From the Anglican Church of Southern Africa*







# *Canticles and Litanies*

Lord, we praise you for the harvest of the fields around .....  
For fields of wheat and barley;  
for oil-seed rape and maize,  
for healthy herds, for sheep and pigs,  
We give thanks.

We praise you for the harvest of local hedgerows,  
for the straggling bramble;  
for black showers of elderberry,  
for mushrooms nestling in the dewy grass  
We give thanks.

We praise you for the harvest of gardens and allotments;  
For earthy roots and crackling cabbage,  
for hanging beans and striped courgette  
We give thanks.

Lord we praise you for the harvest of talents in this church;  
for buildings well maintained, for flower arrangements and music,  
for responsible stewardship, for charities supported.  
We give thanks.

We praise you for the harvest of fellowship here at ....  
for friends made and support given.  
For people with whom to laugh and with whom to weep.  
We give thanks.

Lord we praise you for the harvest of prayer in this place.  
For commitment deepened;  
for discipleship taken up,  
for the cross carried and the burdens borne  
We give thanks.

Now Lord we dedicate this festival of harvest thanksgiving to you. Bless us,  
strengthen us, unite us in your love. **Amen**



Voice: We are thankful for the passion of the children and youth among us who push us to recognize the urgency of the environmental crisis.

**All: Thank you, Creator and giver of passion.**

Voice: We are thankful for the insights of the native brothers and sisters among us who draw on their tradition and teach us about the sacredness of all creation and how to live in kinship with it.

**All: Thank you, Creator and giver of insight.**

Voice: We are thankful for the inspiration of those among us who have already begun to live their lives in ways that show a caring for the earth, water, and the skies.

**All: Thank you, Creator and giver of inspiration.**

**Participants may offer other thanksgivings in word or deed**

**All: We thank you, God, for all signs of hope that keep us from despairing and point us toward new ways of living**

*-Church of Canada*

## Evening Thanksgiving

***We offer thanks to you God almighty  
in the name of Jesus Christ through the power of the Spirit.***

Your blazing bright creation eclipsed chaotic darkness. Waters which had once destroyed became your servants. Your faithful promise took root in a chosen people and lived on through desert, tribes, judges, kings, through days of wandering and temple, through years of comfort and exile, while prophets spoke your law and love, your covenant, your gift.

### ***Refrain***

Your new covenant reached out to seek our flesh, became incarnate Good News of salvation; by teaching, healing, dying, rising, he changed the course of time. His Spirit blows through grace-filled waters; his Spirit burns in loving hearts, strengthening us for mission, preparing for his return“.

### ***Refrain***

***After last Refrain:***

***Now and Forever. Amen***

Leader: God of power, God of people,

**All: You are the life of all living things,**

Leader: The energy that fills the earth,

**All: The vitality that brings to birth,**

Leader: The impetus toward making whole whatever is bruised or broken.

**All: In you we grow to know the truth that sets all creation free.**

Leader: You are the song that the whole earth sings,

**All: The promise liberation brings, now and forever.**

*- From Words and Songs of Reconciliation and Praise, Graz, 1997*

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it;  
The world and all that lives in it.  
Thanks be to God.

All the animals of the forest are the Lord's  
and so are the cattle upon a thousand hills.  
Thanks be to God

The Lord makes grass to grow for the cattle  
and plants for us to cultivate.  
Thanks be to God

The Lord brings forth food from the earth,  
wine that gladdens our hearts.  
Thanks be to God

Oil to make our faces shine,  
bread that sustains our hearts  
Thanks be to God

The Lord makes springs pour water into the valleys;  
It flows between the mountains.  
Thanks be to God

The birds of the air nest by the waters;  
They sing among the branches.  
Thanks be to God

For all who cooperate and collaborate with God  
to bring food to our tables,  
Thanks be to God

For farmers, growers, packers, and processors, for breeders, stock  
people, shepherds and dairy-farmers  
Thanks be to God

For distributors, for chefs, cooks, and creative entrepreneurs  
Thanks be to God **Amen**

Once again the earth has produced her increase.

The harvest of grain is drying, ready for feed and bread, the harvest of roots in part is lifted, in part awaits the lifting.

V O give thanks to the Lord of Lords.

**R For His mercy endures forever.**

The harvest of the vine, the grape, the pea, the bean, the harvest of the bush, the gooseberry, the currant, the raspberry, the harvest of the tree, the plum, the apple, the pear, are now in part gathered, in part ripening.

V O give thanks to the Lord of Lords.

**R For His mercy endures forever.**

Vegetables in their variety have yielded crops, and are still yielding, flowers have blossomed and seeded, we have food for the winter and food for the market, the fruit of our labour and the gift of God.

V O give thanks to the Lord of Lords.

**R For His mercy endures forever.**

We have enough, we have laboured to produce the food we enjoy, we have laboured that we might have means to purchase the food we enjoy.

V O give thanks to the Lord of Lords.

**R For His mercy endures forever.**

There are those that have not enough, for whatever the reason they hunger and have not the means to purchase relief.

V In your prosperity do not forget the alien and the stranger.

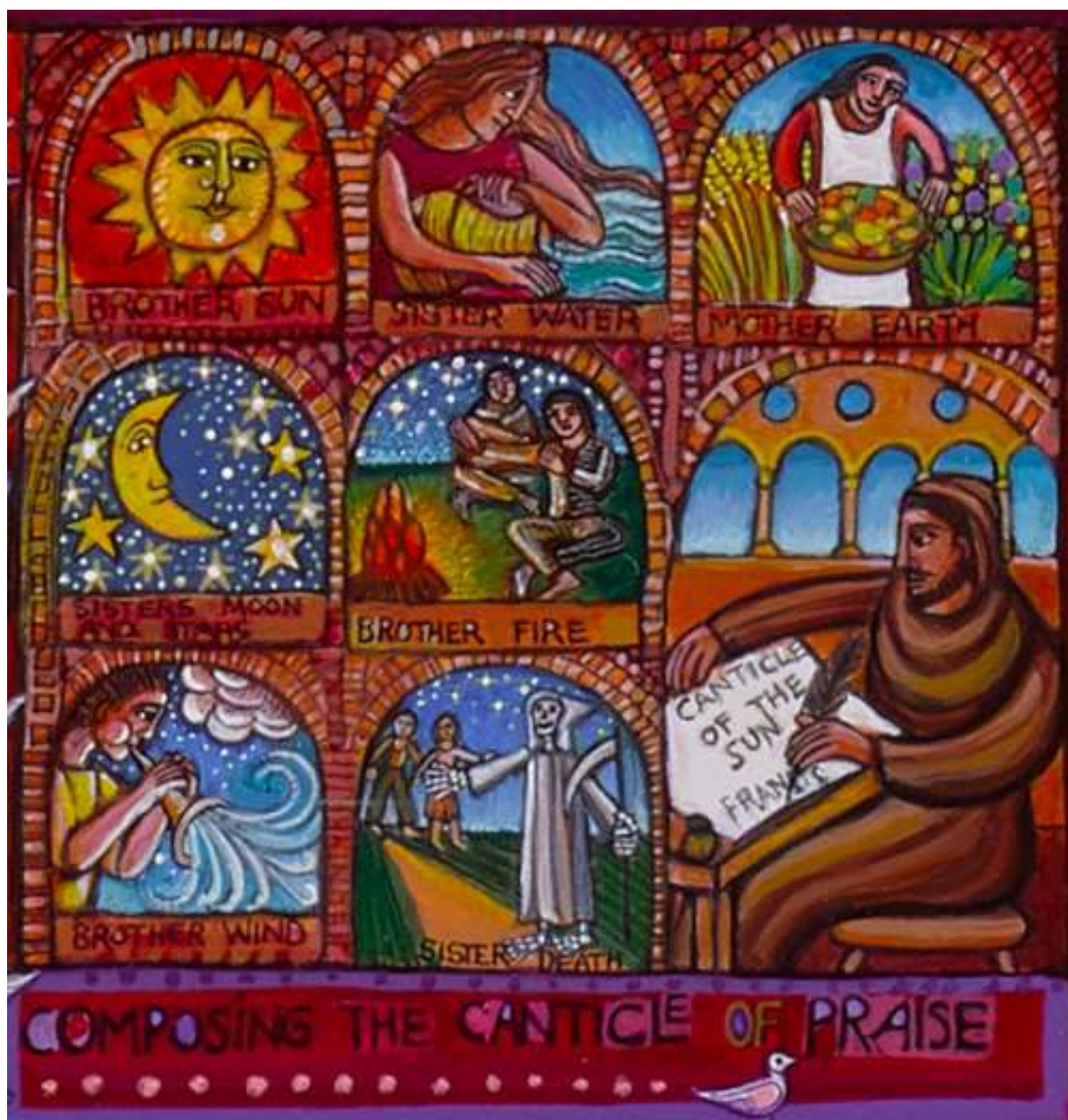
**R We will not forget our brother in his need.**

And yet there is enough food for all, but it is not always where it is needed, or at a price which can be afforded. V In your prosperity do not forget the alien and the stranger.

**R We will not forget our brother in his need. Beyond this bread we look to the bread of heaven; beyond this fruit we look to the fruits of eternal life.**

V You are worthy, O Lord God, to receive glory and honour and power.

**R Because by your will all things were created and have their being.**



# *Blessings and Sending*



Blessed are those who hunger  
and thirst for righteousness.

**They will be filled.**

Blessed are the merciful.

**They will receive mercy.**

Blessed are the peacemakers.

**They will be called the children of God.**

Walk with righteous hearts,  
merciful hands  
and peaceful minds.

**Amen.**

Go out into the world rejoicing,  
and encounter the Creator who waits to meet you there;  
savour its richness and diversity  
and live as those who praise God for its bounty;  
and the blessing of the Creator God,  
the Eternal Father,  
the Risen Son and the Promised Holy Spirit  
be upon you, that you might be a blessing  
to others today and always.

**Amen.**

*-Anglican Church of Southern Africa*

The God of peace,  
who gives food to every living creature,  
give you your daily bread,  
and make you hungry and thirsty for justice.  
**Amen.**

The Lord Jesus Christ,  
who feeds us in this sacrament,  
give you strength for work and witness,  
and bring you to the wedding  
banquet of heaven and earth.  
**Amen.**

The Spirit of grace,  
who nourishes hearts and minds with saving truth,  
give you joyful companions at Wisdom's feast,  
and send you to feed the hungry  
and bring good news to the poor.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing of God,  
holy eternal Majesty,  
holy incarnate Word,  
holy abiding Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

*-Anglican Church of Australia*

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Go in peace,  
to treasure and to tend the world God made and loves.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*-Anglican Church of Australia*





O God our Father,  
we thank you that once again you have  
fulfilled your gracious promise that,  
while earth remains,  
seedtime and harvest shall not fail.  
We bless you for the kindly fruits of the earth  
which you have given to our use.  
Teach us, when we pray,  
that it is not by bread alone that we live;  
and grant us evermore to feed on Him  
who is the true bread from heaven,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen**

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## USPG

5 Trinity Street  
London  
SE1 1DB

020 7921 2200

[info@uspg.org.uk](mailto:info@uspg.org.uk)

[www.uspg.org.uk](http://www.uspg.org.uk)

@USPGglobal

Registered charity number 234518

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