

URC Multicultural Celebration 2009 -Worship Resources

Prayers of Approach & Confession

Come,
power of love and ocean of mercy
touch us,
forgive us
and release
your transforming fragrance
in our lives
in our communities
and in our world.

Come,
Jesus son of Mary,
cleans us:
body, mind and soul
and lead us
from the unreal to the real
from shadows to light
from the temporary to the eternal.

Come, Spirit of love
Help us to perceive
so that we may understand
Help us to believe
so that we may perceive
Help us to attend (to Your way)
so that we may believe
Help us to breathe together
so that the world may believe.

Generous God, You who stretch out the heavens like a canopy to shelter your creation; You have blessed us without counting the cost. Yet in response we calculate our commitment and let convenience determine our walking of your way. Forgive us, we pray. Through the word spoken, sung, in our fellowship and in our sharing of bread and wine, touch our hearts, minds and spirits with the life-changing power of your expansive grace, propelling us to love one another, in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

Prayer of the People or Prayers of Intercession

Mysterious, stranger God,
never confined by culture, colour, class or creed,
Meeting us anew in the mystery of the stranger;
Becoming in Jesus both refugee and migrant.
Thank you for welcoming all into your economy of grace.
Loving God, we bring the concerns of our hearts to you
We are concerned for the world you created for our home
We pray for all who suffer through wars, poverty, human greed and selfishness

May they find your comfort and peace
Give us your love and compassion, your strength and wisdom
That we may be agents for real change and transformation in the world
Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all of your creation
Give us your grace that we may be channels for your peace now and always.

We pray for these diverse isles of ours, Lord
Bless all our leaders with your grace and wisdom
That they may carry out their responsibilities according to your will
We pray for our communities and families
Help us to celebrate with joy the rich diversity you have created among us
Teach us to love one another as you love us
that we may truly reflect your love to all.

We pray for the United Reformed Church and all our ecumenical partners
Bless our church leaders with your grace and understanding
That they may lead us with clear vision and sense of purpose
Help us to appreciate the diversity among your people
And to develop friendships across boundaries of culture, ethnicity, and race
Help us as we seek to be your people -
To be a people transformed by the gospel, proclaiming freedom for those in
prisons of wealth, poverty, disease and disorder,
and committed to making a difference in the world.

as Jesus taught his disciples (pray in the language you are most comfortable with)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name..... Amen

Benediction

Leader 1: May all rejoice in hope
Leader 2: May all be free from disease & dis-ease
Leader 1: May all realise what is good
Leader 2: May all share in life that is full and abundant
Leader 1: May all be blessed and be a blessing to many others

Both: And may the Radiant One
Leader 2: Eye of our eyes
Leader 1: Ears of our ear
Leader 2: Heart of our hearts
Leader 1: Mind of our minds
Leader 2: Breath of our breaths
Leader 1: Life of our lives
Leader 2: Soul of our souls
Both: bless us with radiant presence
and embrace us with energising love. Amen

December 5th 2009