

PRAISE

Creator God, we glimpse your beauty

In setting sun, mountain top, eagle's wing

We sense your power in thunder crash, lightning flash, ocean's roar and raging floods

Creator God, we praise you.

Precious Jesus, we see your love stretched out upon a cruel cross,

We stand in awe at your sacrifice, pure love poured out for humanity.

Precious Jesus, we praise you.

Holy Spirit, we see your power in lives transformed, hearts on fire.

We listen for your still, small voice, comforting, guiding, calling.

Holy Spirit, we praise you.

CONFESSION

In the day of our trouble we will call to you, O Lord,

for you will answer us.

When we have done what is wrong and displeasing in your sight, O Lord, extend your love to correct us.

When we ignore those in need

and pretend that all is right with the world, O Lord, help us to face the truth.

When we turn a blind eye to those who are overwhelmed by poverty, devastation and humiliation, and face injustices daily,

O Lord, teach us your way.

Empower us to extend your love;

and give us an undivided heart,

that we may be your hands and feet.

We praise you, O Lord our God,

with all our heart;

and we glorify your name forever.

ABSOLUTION

O God of shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies,

but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love.

Break down those walls.

Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with those we call our enemies.

Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ.

THANKSGIVING

Loving God, you fill all things with a fullness and hope that we can never comprehend.

Thank you for leading us into a time where more of reality is being unveiled for us all to see.

We pray that you will take away our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear and despair.

Give us the courage to awaken to greater truth, greater humility, and greater care for one another.

May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts, trusting in your eternal presence and love.

Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our suffering world.

Knowing, good God, you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God.

Amen