

Final Session Liturgy

Scripture Reading: Genesis 4.8-10

Take a moment to reflect on what you have learned about yourself during this course, and on what you want to lay down with God for healing.

- What in you needs to be allowed to die?
- What assumptions, attitudes, or beliefs?
- What new attitudes or behaviours is God calling you to?

We say together:

We are the church.

**May the church be resurrected to the way of humility
May the church be resurrected to the way of curiosity
May the church be resurrected to the way of mercy
May the church be resurrected to the way of service
May the church be resurrected to the way of wholeness
May the church be resurrected to the way of the cross
May the church be resurrected like Jesus
May the church be resurrected by love.
Amen.**

(Rachel Held Evans)

Creed - (With apologies to Dorothee Solle)

I believe in God,
who created the world not ready made
like a thing that must forever stay what it is,
but who is always ahead of us,
calling back to us to catch up.
I believe in God who does not
create or validate people who dominate
and people subjected.
I believe in God who desires the alteration
of every unjust condition through our work.

I believe in Jesus Christ
who worked to alter every unjust condition
and came to grief in so doing.
Every day I am afraid that he died for nothing
because we have betrayed his revolution
in our obedience and fear of the status quo.
I believe in Jesus Christ who is resurrected into our life
so that we might be free
from prejudice and presumptuousness,
from fear and hate,
and push his revolution onwards.

I believe in the Spirit.
in the communion of all peoples,
and our responsibility for what will become of our earth:
A valley of tears, discrimination and violence –
or the city of God.
I believe in the just peace that can be created,
in the possibility of dignified life for all humankind
and in the future of this world of God. **Amen.**

Prayer

Canticle

82 A Song of Anselm

- 1 Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; ·
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
- 2 Often you weep over our sins and our pride, ·
tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.
- 3 You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, ·
in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us.
- 4 Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life; ·
by your anguish and labour we come forth in joy.
- 5 Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; ·
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.
- 6 Your warmth gives life to the dead, ·
your touch makes sinners righteous.
- 7 Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; ·
in your love and tenderness remake us.
- 8 In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, ·
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Closing prayer
