

Final Session Leader's prayers

Prayer

Gracious God,
we thank you for all the brave and prophetic voices
who walk ahead of us,
calling us back to your way.

We thank you for the love and generosity of those
who have overcome their own pain to share with us:
for Rosalyn, Jaqueline, Julius, Neil, Azariah, Anthony
and for Jen and all the authors we have engaged with.

We pray that this is not the end of this venture,
but that the shoots we have established will continue to grow and flourish
and make a difference to more people.

Bless and strengthen all people who are hurting in the church today.
All who will be ground down by micro-aggressions,
invisible to those around them who will be weighed down
by the projections and assumptions of others,
who will expend energy which could be used for building, in coping.
And guide all those of us who mean no harm,
but do it none the less.

We ask for a revolution of understanding,
a Pentecost of hearing and comprehending
so that we may grow to be a people
who can bring in your Kingdom to our communities -
because we are living it ourselves.

Amen.

Closing prayer

God of love,
you created all human beings in your image and likeness.
Bearing your image,
you called on us to reflect your goodness, justice,
and love to all the world.

We acknowledge the way our church
has fallen grievously short of your will for your children.
But in attending this course,
we have set our intention to re-orientate ourselves to your commission to us.

As we go on from here,
keep us mindful of what we have heard,
of how we have been educated and challenged,
that we may live as people who unpick the thread of old ways
so that a new and better picture may be sewn.

Amen.
