

Eucharistic Prayer for the Season of Creation

From the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, authorized by the Provincial Liturgical Committee and the Synod of Bishops

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God of all of Creation
It is right to give him thanks and praise

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:

Holy, holy, holy...

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.

The Lord's prayer, etc

Final blessing

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.**