

Prayer for the Road ahead

Starting with Ourselves

Reader: We open to the possibility of peace, starting with ourselves.
We commit to being vulnerable with one other person this day.

All: Yes, we open to the possibility of peace.

Reader: We commit to being open to the suffering of one other being this week.

All: Yes, we open to the possibility of peace.

Reader: We consent to having our heart broken open by injustice this month.

All: Yes, we open to the possibility of peace.

Reader: We commit, this year, to resting in the heart of Christ so that the violence in our hearts may be transformed.

All: Yes, we open to the possibility of peace.

Reader: We commit to being the voice of our beloved and beleaguered planet.

All: Yes, we open to the possibility of peace.

Bruce Sanguin

Closing Hymn

*One blue sky above us
One ocean lapping all our shores
One earth so green and round
Who could ask for more?
And because I love you
I'll give it one more try
To show my rainbow race
It's too soon to die
Some folks want to be like an ostrich
Bury their heads in the sand
Some hope that plastic dreams
Can unclench all those greedy hands
Some want to take the easy way
Poisons, bombs, they think we need
'em
Don't you know you can't kill all the
unbelievers
There's no shortcut to freedom*

*And because I love you
I'll give it one more try
To show my rainbow race
It's too soon to die
Go tell, go tell all the little children
Go tell all the mothers and fathers
too
Now's our last chance to learn to
share
What's been given to me and you
One blue sky above us
One ocean lapping all our shores
One earth so green and round
Who could ask for more?
And because I love you
I'll give it one more try.*

Season of Creation

The Symbol for 2026 is Immersion in Living Water

The call is for transformation – that Christians would be immersed in the living water flowing from the throne of God- stepping in deeper and deeper, inspired by the Spirit of God, working together for the renewal of Creation.

Sunday Liturgy, Sept 6th 2026

Welcome and Stilling exercise

Penitential Rite: Bowl of tears

Just as the river flows into the barren land to heal it, may our tears and actions bring life back to our broken world. **Lord, have mercy**

Lamenting together is not surrender. It is an act of faith that opens the door to hope. **Christ, have mercy**

Let us overcome our fear and step into the water of God's love - to be part of the river of Transformation of the world, to see the literal healing and renewing of creation and the blessing of the earth. **Lord, have mercy.**



Individual laments and immersion of hands

Gloria

*The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and all creation is shouting for joy,
come dance in the forest, come play in
the field,
and sing, sing to the glory of the Lord.*

Sing to the sun, the bringer of day,
he carries the light of the lord in his rays,
the moon and the stars,
who light up the way unto your throne.

Praise to the wind, that blows through
the trees,
the seas mighty storms, the gentlest
breeze,
they blow where they will,
they blow where they please, to please
the Lord.

Praise to the rain, that waters our fields,
and blesses our crops, so all the earth
yields,
from death unto life her mystery concealed,
springs forth in joy.

Praise to the fire, who gives us his light,
the warmth of the sun to brighten our
night,
he dances with joy, his spirit so bright,
he sings of you.

Opening Prayer

Listening is the first step of ecological conversion. Before we change the world, we ask you, Creator God, that we may learn to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor—to recognize God's presence in every stream, every forest, every neighbour, and every community longing for justice, peace, and renewed hope. This we ask through Jesus, your Word. Amen.

1st reading - Ezekiel 47: 9, 12

Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing.”

Responsorial Psalm—Psalm 23 sung

2nd reading - Rom 13: 8-10

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbour as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Gospel – John 7:37-39

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Lectio

An Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.
We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one,
the poor one, the malnourished one,
the climate refugee - who loves and cares for this world
and suffers with it.
And we believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world
and everything in it.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God,
who moves with God
and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.
And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to
death and all destructive forces.

(Lutheran Theological College, South India, adapted)

Intercessory Prayers

Our Father

Prayer/Sign of Peace

Ritual - around scent

