

**Uniting Church in Australia
Working Group on Worship
Liturgical resources for use in relation to
the revised Preamble to the Constitution**

04.06.2016

Prayer of Confession (to be said in unison)

Merciful God, we, the Second Peoples of this land, acknowledge with sorrow the injustice and abuse that has so often marked the treatment of the First Peoples of this land.

We acknowledge with sorrow the way in which their land was taken from them and their language, culture and spirituality despised and suppressed.

We acknowledge with sorrow the way in which the Christian church was so often not only complicit in this process but actively involved in it.

We acknowledge with sorrow that in our own time the injustice and abuse has continued.

we have been indifferent when we should have been outraged,

we have been apathetic when we should have been active,

we have been silent when we should have spoken out.

Gracious God, forgive us for our failures, past and present.

By your Spirit transform our minds and hearts so that we may boldly speak your truth and courageously do your will.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith 1 (to be said in unison)

We declare our faith in God as Creator of the universe, the world in which we live, and all living things on the face of the earth.

We believe that creation bears witness to the power and the presence of the Triune God and calls us as God's people to praise, thanksgiving and responsible stewardship of the earth.

We celebrate the richness and diversity of culture and language in our world knowing that under God we are united in our common humanity.

We declare our faith in Jesus, Saviour and Lord whom God gave in love for the world; who reconciled the world to God; and who through the gift of the Spirit brought the church into being and prayed for its unity.

We believe that in Christ we are brothers and sisters together in the one great family of God, called to live in faith, hope and love for the sake of the Kingdom of God here on earth and in witness to God's final reconciliation of all things

We celebrate the opportunity to learn, grow and serve together as a pilgrim people in the name of Christ.

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Affirmation of Faith 2 (to be said in unison)
(Especially suitable for use with those for whom English is not a first language)

We say God created the universe,
and the world we live in,
and every living thing on this earth.

We believe the Creation shows us the power and presence of God,
and makes us want to praise and give thanks to God,
and take good care of the earth God has made.

We are full of joy that across the world
different peoples have their own culture and language,
and that in God we are all united together as one.

We say God is Spirit,
breath of life,
who is always working to bring people to life in God.

We believe the Spirit has been alive and active in every race and culture,
getting hearts and minds ready for the good news:
the good news of God's love and grace that Jesus Christ revealed.

We are full of joy that from the beginning the Spirit was alive and active,
revealing God through the law, custom and ceremony
of the First Peoples of this ancient land.

We say Jesus is Saviour and Lord,
and that he began the church
and prayed that the church might be together as one.

We believe that in the risen Jesus we are all brothers and sisters
in the one great family of God,
and that God calls us to live in faith, hope and love
for the sake of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

We are full of joy that we can learn, grow and serve together
as a pilgrim people
in the name of Christ.

Word of Mission

People of God,
go from here to live out the covenant into which we,
the First and Second Peoples of this land, have entered
with one another.

Confront and challenge injustice wherever you see it.

Act justly yourselves and insist that others do the same.

Rejoice in the richness of our diverse cultures and learn from them.

Celebrate and demonstrate the unity we share in Jesus our Lord.

Commit to worship, witness and serve as one people under God.