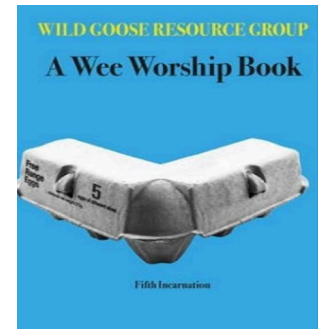


Morning Liturgy C



Page 31 ~ Opening Responses

Leader In the beginning, before time, before people, before the
world began,
ALL GOD WAS

Leader Here and now, among us, beside us, clearer than air; closer than breathing,
ALL GOD IS

Leader In all that is to come, when we have turned to dust and human knowledge has been
completed.
ALL GOD WILL BE

Leader Not despairing of earth, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but redeeming it
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
ALL GOD WAS, GOD IS, GOD WILL BE.

Page 32 ~ Prayer

Leader Let us pray
Holy and gracious God, we live in a world of wonder; conceived by your divine
imagination. The universe is your creation, born out of love and generosity. Hallowed be
your name.

ALL HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

Leader Through centuries of thought and searching, through law and wisdom, insight and
experience, your will and purpose were gradually glimpsed until, in Jesus, all that was
hidden was revealed, and you let the earth be touched by heaven. Hallowed be your name.

ALL HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

Leader In the beauty of the earth, in the silence of our hearts, in the community of your church,
in all works of grace and kindness, in forgiving from the heart and in worship from the
soul, your Spirit confirms the truth by which we live. Hallowed be your name.

ALL HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME

Leader If, knowing this, we have failed to love you, our Maker, been hesitant to follow your Son,
and suspected the power of your Spirit: Lord, have mercy.

ALL LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Leader If we have desired comfort more than devotion; if we have satisfied our wants more than
we have served your will; if we have worshipped a lesser god and gone for an easier gospel:
Christ, have mercy.

ALL CHRIST, HAVE MERCY.

Leader If, in the face of your openness, we have privatized our wealth, limited our company to those like us, restricted our conversation to matters of no consequence, and in all this compromised our integrity and lost faith in our faith; Lord, have mercy.
ALL LORD, HAVE MERCY.

Leader Forgive us, O God, but not to ease our consciences until we feel penitent again.
Forgive us, so that we may have no defense against your will; and then make us friends of your purpose and worth companions of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
ALL AMEN.

Page 34 ~ Psalm 95

Reader Come, let us sing a joyful song to God; shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.
ALL LET US ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE WITH GRATITUDE, AND WORSHIP WITH HEARTFELT JOY.

Reader The Lord is a great God, greater than every idol.
ALL LET US DRAW NEAR TO GOD IN WORSHIP, AND COME BEFORE OUR MAKER: FOR WE ARE THE FLOCK WHOM GOD SHEPHERDS.

A Reading from Holy Scripture

Reader Hear the Word of God.
ALL OUR EARS AND HEARTS ARE OPEN
(Reading)

Reader Give thanks to the One whose Word is life.
ALL BLESSED BE GOD FOR EVER.

Reflection or Silence

Page 35 ~ Prayers of Concern

Leader Let us pray.
May it not be long, Lord...
May it not be long before the world we pray for and the world we inhabit are one.
May it not be long before the domination of wealth over want, white over black, man over woman, the privileged over the poor,
are facts of history, not facts of life.
ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader May it not be long, Lord, before the earth no longer suffers through human selfishness, so that the valleys can sing again, the meadows laugh and barren places burst into bloom.
ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader may it not be long, Lord, before economic power comes only with accountability, and money and taxation are wedded to just purposes.
ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader May it not be long, Lord, before the countries that the West once evangelized show us the larger Christ we have yet to encounter.
 ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader May it not be long, Lord, before we vacate the safe refuges of pessimism and cynicism, and find wells of hope deeper than shallow pools of optimism.
 ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader May it not be long, Lord, before we feel ourselves directly addressed by your voice, as those first disciples did in hearing you summon the strangest of people to the greatest callings.
 ALL MAY IT NOT BE LONG.

Leader May it not be long, Lord.
 And to enable that day to come soon, raise up for us prophets who will give us new sight for better seeing.
 Raise up for us prophets who will increase our altruism and diminish our greed.
 Raise up for us prophets who will spell out that God has not favorite race, nor heaven a favored language.
 Raise up for us prophets who, in their own person, will bridge the gaps through which too many fall.

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ALL Raise up for us prophets who will make clear for our day the truths Jesus said in his, and who will speak with the urgency of those who have glimpsed the coming of the Lord.
 AND IF YOU WILL NOT RAISE UP FOR US PROPHETS,
 THEN RAISE UP IN US THAT HOLD RESTLENESS TO GET YOUR WORK DONE AND YOUR PEOPLE SAVED, FOR JESUS' SAKE. AMEN.

Closing Responses

Leader Now may God who gives seed to the sower and corn to the reaper, give to us all that we need to produce a good harvest.
 ALL MAY GOD MAKE US FERTILE IN FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE, AND TAKE US OUT WITH JOY, AND LEAD US ON IN PEACE, AS SIGNS OF THE FRUITFULNESS OF HEAVEN. AMEN.