

Male Speaker: As we so often do. Now how does this relate itself to the distribution of wealth for example especially in America, how does this relate itself to the plants that close almost each month? And in their wake we find unemployment, social chaos, the ruination of whole communities. How does this relate to oppressive labor and or management practices? How does this relate to the arrogance of power and the inordinate national pride which is leading us headlong in many cases into a third world war? The life and welfare of our brothers and sisters is not their problem only. It is our problem, and we forget this at the peril of our own souls, and at the peril of the displacement and disappearance of the planet Earth. The art of human relations is understanding what it means to be created in God's image, and to seek to actualize that image in persons. The art of human relations is celebrating the uniqueness of every person, and creating the environment in which all people and all kinds of people can grow and develop and become who they were intended to be, regardless of race or color or class. The art of human relations is doing all we can to see to it that our Earth home is not obliterated by a nuclear bomb, which would bring to zero minus both humans and relationships. In closing, let us remember the words of Walt Whitman, in his famous salute to the world. All you continentals of Asia, Africa, Europe, Australia, and different places, all you on the numberless islands and archipelagos of the sea, and you of the centuries hence, when you listen to me, and you each and every where who I specify not, but include just the same, health to you and goodwill to you all. Each of us is inevitable. Each of us limitless. Each of us with his own right upon the Earth. Each of us allowed the eternal support of the Earth. Each of us here as divinely ordained as any is here. We may not always see eye to eye on all issues, but we must learn that we can walk hand in hand toward a common goal, and that goal is goodwill and peace, and justice, and righteousness and truth for all people, all communities, and all nations, let us pray. All people of the Earth, share but one common birth, one destiny. One sun shines o'er us all. Alike we rise and fall. One night shall spread its pall eternally. Great God of all the Earth, teach us to know the worth of sympathy. Let fellowship increase, let all contention cease. Oh may we dwell in peace and unity, Amen. (church organ playing) (congregation singing with organ) (congregation singing with organ) (congregation singing with organ) (congregation singing with organ)

Male Speaker: We have been challenged. Let us now affirm what we believe.

Congregation: We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in the truly human Jesus, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the spirit. We trust God, who calls us to be the church, to celebrate life and its fullness, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us, we are not alone, thanks be to God.

Male Speaker: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Male Speaker: Let us pray. Praise to you, oh Lord of us all, the holy one who presides among the stars, yet teaches the human heart, who gives the seasons that both flesh and nations shall know their mortal boundaries, who authors the mystery of our freedom, and risks the divine love among our human choices. Who intends that each one of us shall go without fear, and that all shall share the music of the deep heavens. Who gathers us to this moment, to discover together who we are in your presence. Praise to you oh lord, our health, and our salvation. Oh creator God, who wills for your creation wholeness of spirit and health of body, hear our intercessions for all who need your blessing, for those chronically ill, to whom no hope of bodily strength can be given, bless them with your presence, and the strength to rise above their reasons for despair into a higher hope. For all who seek in earnest but do not find you, help them to perceive you in the common things around them, that in these things, they begin their journey to meet the Christ. For all who lack food and shelter, may our daily comforts chafe us, and move us to share more and more. Oh God of hope, may the vision of a new Jerusalem infect us, and move us to undertake its building in our own lives, and in our own society. Make us firm against all arguments from despair, that our enemies are less than human, that the poor are poor because they are lazy, that military force is the only language that nations understand, that all other leopards will never change their spots, grant lord God the deep understanding that we were not born to die, but to begin, to interrupt the flow of despair, to start something new, for God's sake. Oh Yahweh, we seek a new dedication to your will in our lives. Grant that we have no lower estimate of humanity than you showed by your passion on the cross, and seeing anew how precious is the life you create in us, grant us the courage to measure ourselves by the stature that you have given us. Do not allow us to concede to cynicism. Keep alive in us such courage of faith that our eyes will not wander from the cross, though many about us brood on the prospect of an empty heaven, and a soulless humanity, and grant oh magnificent one, that we will not think ourselves more virtuous than we are, nor imagine ourselves less worthy than you regard us, in Christ's name. let us now pray together, our Lord's prayer.

Congregation: Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen. (church organ) (church organ) (church organ) (choir singing over organ) (choir singing over organ) (choir singing over organ) (choir singing over organ) (choir singing over organ)

Male Speaker: Oh merciful one, on this week's first day, day of resurrection, day of soul's replenishment, receive now these gifts of money. If we have been charitable, thank you for teaching us such virtue. If we have been stingy, forgive us and enable us to be more generous. And now by your holy spirit, be with us in our use of these offerings, that despair will give way to hope, pain and suffering to healing, evil to goodness, sin to redemption. That all people shall experience your evangel. In your son's name, Amen. (church organ) (congregation singing over organ) (congregation singing over organ) (church organ) And now, may grace, mercy and peace from God the father, son, and holy spirit be with you and with all whom you love. Go out in joy, and remember, by the goodness of God you were born, by the providence of God you are kept all the day long, by the love of God fully revealed to us through Jesus Christ our living lord, you are being redeemed. (choir singing) (church organ) (church organ) (church organ) (church organ) (church organ)

(congregation chatting amongst themselves)