

Prayer of Vocation

**“The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.”
Isaiah 50:4**

INVOCATION

Gracious God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of Life, have mercy on us. Reveal yourself in all things, to all things, and through all things. Grant us the gift of becoming a community of the incarnation, mystery of Word made flesh, who sees and celebrates Good News in hard places. Give us the tongue of a teacher to sustain the weary with the Word, and free leaders from all walks of life to love their city and seek its peace with the Gospel of Jesus.

PROPHETIC VISION

Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The crooked shall be made straight and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Come, Holy Spirit. Show us the way of the Lord that we might see your salvation and seek your peace in all things. Quiet our troubled souls and teach us how to pray. Be our guide, our counselor, our advocate, and our defender. Transform our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh.

CALL TO CREATION

YHWH, in the beginning you formed us from the dust of the ground and breathed into us the breath of life. Breathe on us, in us, and through us now, that we might embody our most sacred vocation to become fully human: to be one with you, and with all creation, and to do things we never thought possible.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

Lord of Life, baptize us again in the sea of your love, where we release our useless fears and relax into your mercy. Inside this new love, we die to all that is false. By your power made perfect in weakness, awaken us to the mystery of life. Speak to us again the truth of our deepest identity hidden in you: "You are my child, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Jesus, like the disciples who were blind to your real presence until they dined with you in the resurrection, we too are blind until you dine with us. You are the stranger among us, revealed as the Loving Host and Forgiving Victim of the meal of reconciliation. Open our eyes, Lord. We want to see and celebrate you at work in the world, especially in the hard places, creating, sustaining, and uniting all of creation in love. In the same way, you took the bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples, and said, "This is my body, broken for you." May we too be taken in love, blessed in love, broken in love, and given in love, that we might become the spoken word of your love in a hurting world, and find ourselves part of the ever-expanding Body of Christ. May we become what we receive.

CALL TO PEACEMAKING

Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace and a sign of your unity in the world that we might act, reflect, and discern like you. May our wounds and the wounds of this world become wombs of new creation, bearing seeds of new life. Free us, O Lord, to be midwives to the holy in all things.

Where there is blindness, call forth the gift of sight. Where there is voicelessness, call forth the gift of voice. Where there is despair, call forth the gift of joy. Where there is isolation, call forth the gift of community. Where there is fear and violence of any kind, call forth the gift of peace born of your love, and make us a community of the Incarnation, creating cities of peace for all people.

BENEDICTION

The Spirit of the Lord is upon us because she has anointed us to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

We pray all of this in the name of the Father who is for us, the Son who is with us, and the Spirit who unites us all in the never-ending dance of Love.

Amen.