

Sunday, May 14, 2023

INVITATION:

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! (Ps. 133:1)

Pause and slow your breath before entering into prayer

BIBLE SONG: Psalm 131

My heart is not proud, Lord,
my eyes are not haughty;
I do not concern myself with great matters
or things too wonderful for me.
But I have calmed and quieted myself,
I am like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child I am content.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord
both now and forevermore.

PRAYER:

Lord God, Creator of All, in your wisdom, you have bound us together so that we must depend on others for the food we eat, the resources we use, the gifts of your creation that bring life, health, and joy. Creator God, we give thanks.

Holy be the hands that sew our clothes so that we do not have to go naked. Sacred be the hands that build our homes so that we do not have to be cold. Blessed be the hands that work the land so that we do not have to go hungry. Creator God, we give thanks.

Holy be the feet of all who labor so that we might have rest. Sacred be the feet of all who run swiftly to stand with the oppressed. Blessed be the feet of all whose bodies are too broken or weary to stand. Creator God, we give thanks.

Holy be the sound of children laughing to take away our sorrow. Sacred be the sound of water falling to take away our thirst. Blessed be the sound of your people singing to heal our troubled hearts. Creator God, we give thanks.

Holy be the bodies of those who know hunger. Sacred be the bodies of those who are broken. Blessed be the bodies of those who suffer. In your mercy and grace, soften our callous hearts and fill us with gratitude for all the gifts you have given us.

In your love, break down the walls that separate us and guide us along your path of peace, that we might humbly worship you in Spirit and in truth.¹

Pause and listen for what God is saying to you.

INTERCESSION:

*for Hebron to be a place where everyone feels welcome

*for those in jails and other correctional facilities

*for those affected by the terrorist insurgency in Burkina Faso

What else do you want to talk to God about?

How is God inviting you to respond?

BLESSING:

In every moment of this day

May you know the embrace of God's love

May you hear the whisper of God's voice

May you feel the presence of God's Spirit

May you share the knowledge of God's grace

in every moment of this day. Amen. ⁵