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Social Justice Reflection.

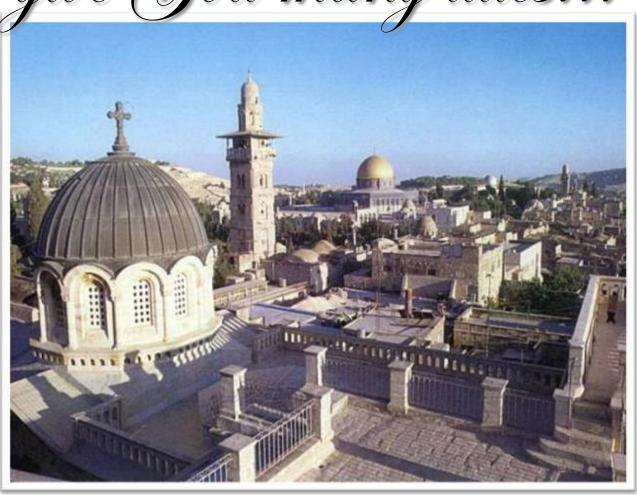
We cannot summarise the infinite nature of God with human language...

for God is everything that is beautiful and true.



Therefore, it is important to

give God many titles...



through which we contemplate the reality of God's presence in our world...

A QUIET MOMENT

... and in our lives

... and in our lives



PSALM 43 rsv



And so, let us remember that we are in the holy presence of our God...

St. Francis of Assisi - 13th century

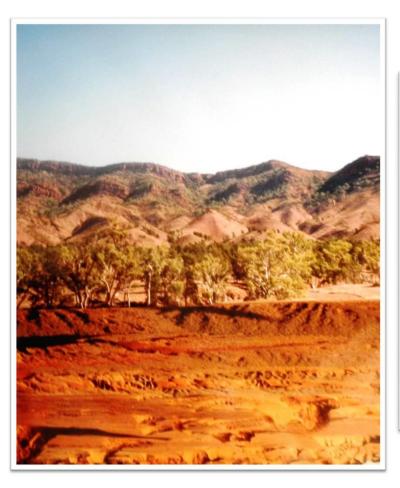
Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

God of Day & God of Darkness

(Marty Haugen Anthology I. 1985-1989.)





God of Day & God of Darkness

God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night. As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright. All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might. When the Sun of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant

Still the nations curse the darkness, still the rich oppress the poor. Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more. Come and wake us from our sleeping, so our hearts cannot ignore all your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.



Show us Christ in one another. Make us servants strong and true. Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do. Let us call all people holy. Let us pledge our lives anew. Make us one with all the lowly. Let us all be one in you.

You shall be the path that guides us; you the light that in us burns. Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn. For our hearts shall wander restless 'til they safe to you return. Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.

Gentle Father, Loving Mother, Jesus: brother, saviour, friend. Spirit of all grace and power, may we praise you without end. Grant us all a peaceful resting, let each mind and body mend, so we rise refreshed tomorrow. hearts renewed to your

kingdom tend.



Creator God:

No one is a stranger to you and no one is ever far from your loving care.

In your kindness, watch over refugees and asylum seekers, those separated from their loved ones, young people who are lost and those who have left or run away from home.



Bring them safely to the place they long to be and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and to those in need.

Grant this through Christ our Risen Lord. Amen.



Scripture Reading

John 15:9-17

Jesus said: "I love you just as the Father loves me; remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

My commandment is this: love one another, just as I love you. The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them.

And you are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because servants do not know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because I have told you everything I heard from my Father. You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you whatever you ask of him in my name. This, then, is what I command you: love one another.

The gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Be a light in the darkness.



If we remain silent, who will rise up?

If we close our eyes and turn our heads, who will see the injustice?



If we wring our hands and shuffle our feet, who will act with mercy?







What if we were called for such a time as this, to see through different eyes and move to a different drum?

Together, let us pray...

Father, give us your strength, at such a time as this, to lead distinctive lives, and see your Kingdom come.



May each of us have the courage, the strength and the resolve to make a difference in the lives of those who need our love, our help and our support. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

