



THE
LUTHERAN
WORLD
FEDERATION

Department for Theology
and Public Witness

lutheranworld.org

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE

**Thursday Morning Prayer, Ecumenical Centre
29 November 2018**

World Council of Churches – Lutheran World Federation

Call to worship

In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,
The name of Christ, the pulse of life,
And the name of the Spirit, the breath of life.
We come into your presence,
Loving Creator; our sustainer

In a world where both women and land are subjugated and oppressed,
Where dignity is trampled for the sake of power and profit,
You hold us in loving arms, You uplift us,
You strengthen us, You promise fullness of life

Spirit of Wisdom – come!
Be among us. Move us. Embrace us. Unite us.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God.
All people, all creation, may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Reading: Psalm 147

- 1 Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- 2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
- 3 He heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.

- 4 He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.
- 8 He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.
- 9 He gives to the animals their food,
and to the young ravens when they cry.
- 10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;
- 11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

♪ **Touch the earth lightly**

Shirley Erena Murray: Aotearoa/New Zealand

Colin Gibson: Aotearoa/New Zealand

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- 12 Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!
- 13 For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.
- 14 He grants peace within your borders;
he fills you with the finest of wheat.
- 15 He sends out his command to the earth;
his word runs swiftly.
- 16 He gives snow like wool;

- he scatters frost like ashes.**
- 17 He hurls down hail like crumbs—
who can stand before his cold?
- 18 He sends out his word, and melts them;
he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.
- 19 He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and ordinances to Israel.
- 20 He has not dealt thus with any other nation;
they do not know his ordinances.
- Praise the LORD!

Let us pray:

Loving God, bless us with insight to recognize violence in all its forms. Grant us eyes to see the violence done against women and against the earth. Give us the courage to name it, speaking out for justice.

Fill us with compassion for the vulnerable of the earth, and grace to stand with the abused, sharing Christ's strength.

Send your Holy Spirit to bless us with a prayerful heart, and power to breathe peace, transforming the world.

The blessing of the holy and glorious Trinity, eternal Wisdom, living Word, abiding Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

In Jesus' name, we pray together in our own language:
The Lord's Prayer:

Closing:

♪ **Nothing is lost on the breath of God**

Nothing is lost on the breath of God

Colin Gibson

♩ = 152

GREENLANE

Colin Gibson, New Zealand

Nothing is lost on the breath of God, no-thing is lost for - e - ver;
God's breath is love, and that love will re- main, hold-ing the world for- e - ver. No
fea-ther too light, no hair too fine, no flow- er too brief in its glo- ry, no
drop in the o-cean, no dust in the air, but is coun- ted and told in God's sto- ry.

2. Nothing is lost to the eyes of God,
nothing is lost forever;
God sees with love, and that love will remain,
holding the world forever.
No journey too far, no distance too great,
no valley of darkness too blinding,
no creature too humble, no child too small
for God to be seeking and finding.

3. Nothing is lost to the heart of God,
nothing is lost forever;
God's heart is love, and that love will remain,
holding the world forever.
No impulse of love, no office of care,
no moment of life in its fulness,
no beginning too late, no ending too soon,
but is gathered and known in its goodness.

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