

Litany of Reparation

O Birther, Father-Mother of the Cosmos, faithful heart of all reality

Praise and thanksgiving to you, O God.

Jesus, Word of God, given flesh through Mary, body and blood poured out, the Christ

Praise and thanksgiving to you, O God.

Spirit Sophia, who moves, breathes, restores and unifies, praying through us and for us

Praise and thanksgiving to you, O God.

Have mercy on us for we have sinned, turning on one another and tearing apart the fabric of your design, our wholeness in Sacred Unity

Forgive us, God, we pray.

We have failed to recognize and reverence the image of your face in each person of our human family, each creature of your unfolding universe

Forgive us, God, we pray.

We have allowed our hearts to grow shallow and our attention to narrow, trading the true wealth of your goodness for what glitters but fails to satisfy

Forgive us, God, we pray.

Coming to our senses, we seek to make amends, to acknowledge our mistakes, to embrace again the demands of kinship

Come, steady our steps in your way.

Be near to us now as we open ourselves; align us anew to your heart's movements

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For the sake of Earth, tattered and torn, that we might learn to partner with, rather than destroy, her natural regenerative forces. Provide us your wisdom to make new choices

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For the sake of Native peoples, whose lands were seized and whose human rights were denied in the foulest of ways. In all humility may we approach them, seeking forgiveness and partnering with them, reverencing their culture and learning from their wisdom

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For the sake of those of African descent, whose ancestors were kidnapped to this country and sold into slavery, deprived of human dignity for generations while their labors built the wealth and comfort of their captors. Loving God of all, we ask your mercy. Open our hearts and lives to deepen inter-racial dialogue. Empower us together to use our voices and our actions to build a society of racial equity.

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For the sake of Asian, Latinx, Jewish and Middle Eastern persons and other groups among us who suffer as objects of our scorn, violence or abject disregard, rather than being recognized as neighbors. Forgive us, we pray; and grant us the courage to break free of stereotypes, stretching out our hands in friendship and support. May we choose to step forward as allies or protectors when needed.

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For the sake of women, acknowledging the progress towards equality already made, that we will act in continued commitment until all gifts are free to shine and no one is violated or trafficked for profit or pleasure.

Come, steady our steps in your way.

For all perceived as other or different due to physical, mental, gender or sexual characteristics. Rejecting dynamics of shame, we choose to celebrate the richness of our diversity, building bridges of connection and rejoicing in the intermingled strength of our common life

Come, steady our steps in your way.

As our relationships heal and deepen, we commit ourselves to reshape the systems necessary for our common life to function, particularly economics, education, health and governance, arts and media. Break open our imaginations as we roll up our sleeves and work in solidarity, attentive always to who is gathered at the table. Sophia, Lady Wisdom, work through us and among us.

Come, steady our steps in your way.

In a moment of shared silence, we grieve the massive extinction of both plant and animal species across our planet [pause]. Expanding our consciousness beyond the human, we seek to redesign our lives to breathe with deeper, fuller breath, to know our interdependent kinship with all of life, to learn from and to serve the greater whole. May harmony rise up triumphant to the glory and praise of God.

Amen. Amen. Come, steady our steps in your way.

Mary of Nazareth, consummate woman, and Joseph her loving spouse

Intercede to God for us.

All holy men and women, deceased yet ever near

Intercede to God for us.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, member of the Mohawk Tribe and patron saint of ecology and the environment

Intercede to God for us.

African Americans venerable Pierre Toussaint, Venerable Henriette DeLille, and Mary Elizabeth Lange, Servant of God

Intercede to God for us.

St. Juan Diego and St. James the Apostle, beloved of the Mexican people

Intercede to God for us.

St. Jane Frances de Chantal and St. Benedict Joseph Labre, each with mental health challenges

Intercede to God for us.

All creatures great and small

Intercede to God for us.

Fire and water, wind and soil, matter and energy of Earth, our home

Intercede to God for us.

We close by praying in solidarity with Christ Jesus:

O Birther, Father-Mother God, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.