

# Wednesday Evening<sup>1</sup>

*Opening Song: The Kingdom of God (Taize)*

We come into this space,  
as people blessed by the touch of God;  
as people enriched by cultures born into and discovered;  
as people wounded by racism;  
as people yearning for healing;  
as people working for the Kingdom.

**God, be with us.**

We come into this space,  
with anticipation of the work before us;  
with an openness to discovery;  
with a commitment to working for reconciliation;  
with a willingness to challenge and be challenged;  
with anticipation of discovery.

**Christ, come near us.**

We come into this space,  
to spend time with the Scriptures;  
to learn about prejudice;  
to become aware of privilege;  
to explore cultures;  
to encourage each other to action.

**Holy Spirit, bless our time together. Amen.**

We believe in God, Creator of the World and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

**We believe; God, help our unbelief.**

We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom:  
In the upholding of human dignity and community  
In every expression of love, justice and reconciliation  
In each act of self-giving on behalf of others  
In the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough  
In all responsible use of the earth's resources

**Glory to God on high; and on earth, peace**

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<sup>1</sup> Prayers taken from *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other: The Antiracism Training Manual of the Episcopal Church*, unless otherwise noted.

We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action;  
Through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith  
Through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life  
Through the search for security through military and economic forces that threaten human existence  
Through the abuse of technology, which endangers the earth and all  
Life upon it  
**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ  
To take up the cross  
To seek abundant life for all humanity  
To struggle for peace with justice and freedom  
To risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come  
**Thy kingdom come, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Amen.**

The Cross  
**We will take it.**

The bread  
**We will break it.**

The joy  
**We will share it.**

The Gospel  
**We will live it.**

The Love  
**We will give it.**

The darkness  
**God will perish it.**

*Closing Song: Paths Intertwining*