

Shared Convictions: A Responsive Reading

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April 27, 2014

Bright Sunday

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold** print.)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,
we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ
**we declare that as a community of faith and life we seek to transcend
boundaries of nationality, race, class, gender and language.**

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ
**we declare that as a community of faith and life we seek to live in the world
without conforming to the powers of evil, witnessing to God's grace by
serving others, caring for creation, and inviting all people to know Jesus
Christ as Savior and Lord.**

May the grace of God so fill us

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

***May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and
praise of God.***

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 7
Mennonite World Conference

May 4, 2014

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold** print.)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,
we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ
**we declare that we gather regularly to worship, to celebrate the Lord's Supper,
and to hear the Word of God in a spirit of mutual accountability.**

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

***May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and
praise of God.***

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 6
Mennonite World Conference

May 11, 2014

The 4th Sunday of Easter

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold print**)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we declare that Jesus is the Son of God.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we declare that through his life and teachings, his cross and resurrection, he showed us how to be faithful disciples, redeemed the world, and offers eternal life.

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and praise of God.

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 2
Mennonite World Conference

May 18, 2014

The 5th Sunday of Easter

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold print**.)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we declare that the Spirit of Jesus empowers us to trust God in all areas of life so we become peacemakers

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we declare as peacemakers we renounce violence love our enemies, seek justice, and share our possessions with those in need.

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and praise of God.

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 5
Mennonite World Conference

May 25, 2014

The 6th Sunday of Easter

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold print**)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we accept the Bible as our authority for faith and life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

**we interpret the Bible under Holy Spirit guidance, in the light of Jesus Christ
to discern God's will for our obedience.**

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

***May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and
praise of God.***

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 4
Mennonite World Conference

June 1, 2014

The 7th Sunday of Easter

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold print**)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

God is known to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

**God is known to us as the Creator who seeks to restore fallen humanity by
calling a people to be faithful in fellowship, worship, service, and witness.**

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

***May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and
praise of God.***

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 1
Mennonite World Conference

June 8, 2014

Pentecost Sunday

Declaring our Shared Convictions

*(The congregation is asked to read the **bold** print)*

Heavenly Father and God of mercy,

we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of life.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we are, as a church, a community of those whom God's Spirit calls to turn from sin.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we, as a church, acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord.

Because of your power at work in the resurrection of Christ

we, as a church, receive baptism upon confession of faith and follow Christ In life.

May the grace of God so fill us,

May the love of Christ so embrace us,

May the presence of the Spirit so empower us that we may live to the glory and praise of God.

Alleluia, Amen.

Adapted from the Statement of Shared Convictions, Article 3
Mennonite World Conference