

Worship Resources for Social Justice Sunday
“I Was in Prison and You Visited Me” - 25 September 2011

Call to Worship

Come all who are created in God’s likeness

Come all who long for justice

Come all who desire God’s peace

We come seeking a just peace

We come to worship you O God

Opening Prayer

We come to worship you Our Lord and our God

You have graced this world with dignity,

And shown us your desire for justice

We worship and adore you

As we offer our thanks and praise

May we also embrace your ways

to seek justice for all

We worship and adore you Amen

Prayer of Confession

Holy God

You called all that is into being

And offered humanity life in all its fullness.

Yet we have allowed good relationships to be broken

We have become distant from you And our neighbour.

Lord have mercy

At times we have failed to speak out for justice

Leaving the voiceless without an advocate

Christ have mercy

To all who fall short of God’s glory

you offer pardon and peace

Lord have mercy

Assurance of Forgiveness

God is just and forgiving.

God receives us as we are,

lifts us up and calls us again to

be people upholding justice and peace

receive God’s pardon and peace

knowing that all sins are forgiven

Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

God of Justice and peace,

As we prepare to hear your word

Open our eyes to see you

Our ears to hear your word of justice

So we may share your justice and peace in the world.

Lectionary Readings: Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2: 1-13
Matthew 21: 23-32

Justice Reading Matthew 25;34-46

Prayers of Intercession

Sovereign God,
You brought everything into existence
and you long for the world without violence, persecution or crime.
We pray for this world

For those who are still shaking and trembling from natural disasters,
severe storms, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions,
we pray that normality will once again return

For those who are without shelter,
without food, without freedom,
we pray for security and peace.

For those who are lost and lonely,
tortured and desperate in the face of wars and inhumanity .
We pray for peace and kindness.

For those forced to flee their homeland
And are seeking asylum and safe refuge.
We pray for supportive resettlement processes

For this country Australia
its government and judicial system
we pray that they will address the causes of crime.

For those in prison
Their families friends
We pray your love will be known.

We lift up our prayers for the church and the world
May the church remain faithful to your teachings
by continually seeking out in the world
those who are most in need of your justice and love.

Receive the prayers of your people for the people of this world Amen

Hymns that may be considered

(TIS: Together in Song)

Beauty for brokenness	TIS 690
Come thou long expected Jesus	TIS 272
God of Freedom, God of Justice	TIS 657
Great God your Spirit like the wind	TIS 416
Jesus Christ is waiting	TIS 665
May the mind of Christ my Saviour	TIS 609
Praise with joy the world's creator	TIS 179
What does the Lord require	TIS 618
When I needed a neighbour	TIS 629

Prepared by NCCA Secretariat Staff for The Social Justice Network www.ncca.org.au