

## **The Tent of a People on the move**

**Initial Song: Psaume de la Création**

**Mon Dieu ! Tu es grand, Tu es beau,  
Dieu vivant, Dieu très-haut, Tu es le Dieu d'amour !  
Mon Dieu, Tu es grand, Tu es beau,  
Dieu vivant, Dieu très-haut  
Dieu présent en toute création.**

### **Welcoming word**

Welcome to our home, Missionaries of Africa, with the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa.

Welcome to this garden of beautiful trees, cedars and umbrella pines, around the fishbowl, for this new celebration of Creation.

We are happy to welcome you to reflect and pray together in the context of this month dedicated to Creation and during this Jewish holiday season.

The theme of our prayer today, around the tent of meeting, is the feast of tents (Sukkot) which the Jews have kept, but which we Christians do not celebrate, even though it reminds us that we are pilgrims, passing through the earth, our common home. You are all welcome.

### **Leviticus 23:33-43**

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to the people of Israel, saying: On the fifteenth day of this seventh month, and lasting

seven days, there shall be the festival of booths to the Lord. The first day shall be a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. For seven days you shall present the Lord's offerings by fire; on the eighth day you shall observe a holy convocation and present the Lord's offerings by fire; it is a solemn assembly; you shall not work at your occupations.

These are the appointed festivals of the Lord, which you shall celebrate as times of holy convocation, for presenting to the Lord offerings by fire—burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, sacrifices and drink-offerings, each on its proper day— apart from the sabbaths of the Lord, and apart from your gifts, and apart from all your votive offerings, and apart from all your freewill-offerings, which you give to the Lord.

Now, the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the produce of the land, you shall keep the festival of the Lord, lasting seven days; a complete rest on the first day, and a complete rest on the eighth day. On the first day you shall take the fruit of majestic trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook; and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. You shall keep it as a festival to the Lord seven days in the year; you shall keep it in the seventh month as a statute for ever throughout your generations. You shall live in booths for seven days; all that are citizens in Israel shall live in booths, so that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

### **Song of joy: Jubilate Deo (Taizé)**

**Jubilate Deo omnis terra  
Servite Domino in laetitia  
Alleluia, alleluia in laetitia  
Alleluia, alleluia in laetitia.**

### **Sukkot**

The Jewish Feast of Sukkot is a time to recall why it was necessary for the Israelites to wander for forty years—the entire desert experience served as a 'training' period. Dwelling in booths or tents reminded the people of their dependence on God, and taught them to trust Him instead of themselves; to remember that **God is the one who provides**. The Jewish Feast of Sukkot is a reminder of our dependence on God's gift of creation - of the earth, the land, the sky, the seas, the birds and animals and insects and of God's invitation to humankind to share the earth, our common home, and God's universe.

### **Laudato Si' 92**

Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.

### **Laudato Si' 67**

Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for subsistence, but it also has a duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations.

### **Prayer Reflection (in two choirs)**

Countless the homeless.  
Countless the people fleeing.  
Alone, far from home,  
Everyone and almost everything left behind.

Days of flight.

The small belongings  
on the head and in the hand-drawn cart.  
Shoes well worn.

In front of all  
their never-ending columns,  
the nowhere,  
the nothing.

A camp,  
a human hive  
crowded with tents,  
and everywhere barbed wire,  
impassable alleyways,  
dust and heat,  
noise and fear.

Empty are heart and soul.  
Shattered all inner and outer strength.

The challenge?  
To face day to day life  
as a refugee.  
To survive  
To live

### Prayer intentions for the Five Continents

Refrain:

**All the earth, proclaim the Lord;  
sing your praise to God.**

In the last two years more than 200 eco-activists were killed all over the world for their commitment for our Common Home. From their prophetic gestures, and ours, however, will depend the quality of air, soil and water on all continents, the quality of life of all.

sia sempre una canzone.

E per quelli che ora piangono  
e per quelli che ora soffrono  
e per quelli che ora nascono  
e per quelli che ora muoiono.

E per quelli che camminano,  
e per quelli che ti lodano,  
e per quelli che ti aspettano,  
e per quelli che ora cantano.



## **Sharing the peace**

If we are in Christ, we are becoming a new creation. One Home, One Body.

**We see God around us. We see God within us. We give thanks to our Creator.**

Let us show the caring nature you have instilled within us by greeting each other as a sign of God's justice of peace, love, forgiveness and grace. The peace of our Creator be with you in all things.

All: **And also with you.**

You are invited to care and share peace with... and with your neighbours.

## **Final blessing**

**Final song: Laudato sii, o mi Signore**

**Laudato sii, o mi Signore,  
laudato sii, o mi Signore,  
laudato sii, o mi Signore,  
laudato sii, o mi Signore.**

E per tutte le tue creature  
per il sole e per la luna  
per le stelle e per il vento  
e per l'acqua e per il fuoco.

Per sorella madre terra  
ci alimenta e ci sostiene  
per i frutti, i fiori e l'erba  
per i monti e per il mare.

Perchè il senso della vita  
è cantare e lodarti  
e perchè la nostra vita

According to projections of the World Bank, in 2050 there will be 140 million climate migrants in the Southern hemisphere if nothing is done today.

Let us pray for the five continents and for the action needed, our action.

### **1 Africa**

Population growth, extensive agricultural practices, rapid urbanization and illegal wildlife trafficking are the main causes of the loss of species.

We thank for people like Wangari Maathai, who worked tirelessly for Sustainable Development and reforestation in Kenya.

May we bring into bloom the gift of Perseverance.

### **2 Asia**

The depletion of natural resources leads to a breakdown of ecosystems which provide food, clean water and climate regulation. - This is often overlooked in government decision-making processes.

We thank you Lord for those men and women who raise their prophetic voice of warning and of proposing a sustainable economy. May we bring into bloom the gift of Prophecy.

### **3 Europe**

Europe is still one of the richest regions in the world, but sometimes tends to solve their problems to the expense of the poorer regions of the world, like waste exportation, buying carbon emissions.

We thank for the youth who claim a livable future for their children to be born and commit to a lifestyle of less pollution and less waste.

May we bring into bloom the gift of foresight and Hope.

### **4 Americas**

Exploitation of forests and mineral resources lead to land grabbing from indigenous people through traffickers who do not hesitate to kill those who try to challenge them.

We thank all men and women who fight for their homeland so that our Common Home can continue to provide a living space for all.

May we bring into bloom the gift of Justice.

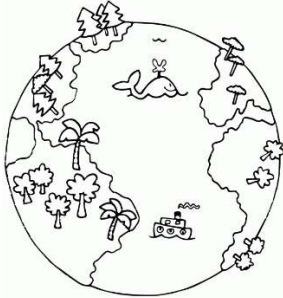
## 5 Oceania

In a few years' time, they say, the quantity of plastic waste in the oceans will outweigh the quantity of fish.

We thank you Lord for all men and women who research and put in practice projects to clean the oceans.

May we bring into bloom the gift of Creativity.

Lord, you intended us to be your co-creators in our Common Home. Send out your Spirit to renew the face of the Earth! Amen.



### Praying the Our Father: (in two choirs)

(adapted from AOSK Commission, Nairobi)

#### OUR FATHER,

who created the world and blessed us with rich cultures.

You regard all persons - women and men, young and old, weak and strong, as equal.

#### WHO ART IN HEAVEN,

on earth and in each person, the humble, the afflicted and the aggressor.

#### THY KINGDOM COME,

the kingdom of peace, love, justice, freedom and truth through reconciliation

#### THY WILL BE DONE,

always and among all nations and peoples; in heaven and on earth.

May your plans for peace not be destroyed by our selfish interests and hunger for power.

#### GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD,

may it be kneaded with PEACE, with love and take away from us the bread of discord and hatred that feeds jealousy and division.

#### GIVE IT TO US TODAY,

because tomorrow it may be too late. Machetes, clubs, arrows and bullets are being used and someone is being killed at this very moment.

#### FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES,

not the way we are accustomed to forgiving but your way to forgive, without resentment and without hidden spite.

#### LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION,

of looking suspiciously at each other, of setting barriers between each other, of forgetting our needy brothers and sisters, of accumulating for ourselves what others may need, of living well at the cost of others and of refusing to help others because they are not of our ethnic community.

#### DELIVER US FROM THE EVIL

that threatens us, from fear that grips us, from the selfishness of the powerful, from death caused by violence in all its forms and lack of respect for human life, because we are many, Father, who wish to live in PEACE and build PEACE for all in our beautiful world. Amen.

### Song

Kumbaya, my Lord, Kumbaya (3)

O Lord, Kumbaya

Someone's crying, Lord, Kumbaya (3)

O Lord, Kumbaya

Someone's dying, Lord, Kumbaya (3)

O Lord, Kumbaya.

Someone's speaking, Lord ...

Someone's praying Lord ....

Kumbaya, my Lord, Kumbaya (3)

O Lord, Kumbaya