

A Great Thanksgiving
“Enough”

The Lord loves you.

And you are also loved.

Be receptive.

We seek to be receptive of God love.

Let us be thankful for all God has done for us.

It is always the right thing to do.

But how shall we express our gratitude?

We seek God day after day,
desiring to know God’s ways.

We ask God for righteous judgements,
wanting to be close to God.

We fast but God does not see us.

We deny ourselves but God doesn’t seem to notice.

God cries out, “Enough!”

God notices that workers are not being paid a living wage.

God listens to our endless quarrels and watches us brawl;
we hit each other violently with our fists.

God cries out, “Enough!”

God watches us go through our acts of religious devotion.

We look so sincere.

We act as if we are sorry about our sins.

God cries out, “Enough!”

If we are thankful then God is expecting us to break the yoke of those we burden;
to stop our mistreatment of others;

to start sharing our own food with those who are hungry,
to share our own homes with those who have no place to lay their head;
to clothe those who need it and to start treating strangers as family.

God cries out, “Enough!”

If we are thankful then we will become menders of broken relationships,
the restorers of community.

Then all the heavens and the earth will join together to proclaim:

Give thanks to the Lord because they are good.

God’s faithful love lasts forever!

Give thanks to the God of all Gods -

God's faithful love lasts forever!

Give thanks to the Lord of Lords -

God's faithful love lasts forever! (*Psalm 136:1-3*)

Because You have had enough of our ingratitude,
You showed us Your highest praise: Jesus.

Because You have had enough of our violence,
against Your creation, and against Your beloved children
You sent Jesus to show us how to turn the other cheek
and to pray for You to forgive those that seek to harm us.

Because You have had enough of our greed,
our robbery of the poor and needy,
You sent Jesus to teach us generosity, to give to the poor,
to not just give to those who ask but to give more than they ever imagined.

Because You have had enough of our judgement,
You sent Jesus not to call down fire from heaven,
not to call down ten thousand angels to destroy the world,
but to extend Your grace lavishly while all were still sinners.

Because You have had enough of our pride and quest for power,
You sent Jesus to humble themselves
taking the place of a servant to wash the feet of those who would break their heart.

Because You have seen enough of our violence
Jesus took the bread of oppression and with prayers of thanksgiving
they broke it and shared it with everyone, saying:
"Take, eat, this is my body given for you."

We will remember that You have had enough.

Because You were tired of all our hatefulness,
Jesus took the cup of judgement with prayers of thanksgiving
they shared it with everyone saying:
"Drink with me, this is the cup of my blood, poured out believing in God's promise of
forgiveness. Forgiving your sins and those of the whole world."

We will remember that You have had enough.

We will remember: Enough is enough.
We want to change and follow the life and teachings of Jesus.
We want to proclaim with our lives this Holy Mystery we declare with our words:

Christ has died to end our need for violence.

**Christ is risen because death is never the answer.
Christ will come again to live in Your peaceable kingdom.**

Blind Grace, Indiscriminate Mercy
Empower these gifts of bread and wine
to become enough for us, the body and blood of Christ
safety for all.

Blind Grace, Indiscriminate Mercy
Empower the gift of our lives, past, present and future
to become enough, Your church, the living body and perfect bride of Christ
safety for all.

Blind Grace, Indiscriminate Mercy
use us to be Your embrace of the unloved, the angry and the shunned;
use us to be Your voice of encouragement, comfort and friendship;
use us to be Your healing of division, distrust, and disillusionment.

**Jesus, You are more than enough to transform our lives and to bring peace.
Holy Spirit, You are more than enough to renew the face of the earth.
Creator God, You are more than enough to inspire our imaginations that we may dream
new dreams and realize a new vision for living together in Your world.
Use our lives to bring forth Your peace and to shine forth Your hope, now and forever.
Amen.**

Now as those who agree with God that enough is enough, let us pray as Jesus taught us: