

Respect - A 'Looking Again', an Enlarging of Love



Prayer Reflection

Play song: *A Place at the Table* – Music Lori True or read text together/.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
For everyone born, clean water and bread,
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead.

Refrain

And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy.
Yes. God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy.

For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding to share,
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
For woman and man, a system that's fair. Refrain.

For young and for old, a place at the table,
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
For young and for old, the right to belong. Refrain.

For just and unjust a place at the table,
Abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
In anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy,
For just and unjust, a new way to live. Refrain.

For everyone born, a place at the table,
To live without fear and simply to be,
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
For everyone born the right to be free. Refrain.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving:

We come together in a spirit of reverence and hospitality for each other, the wider local and global community of life as we give thanks for the new awareness that is growing among us as mercy sisters.

Lord hear us.

From Col 3:12-17: Because we are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, we clothe ourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. We bear with one another and we forgive as You have forgiven us.

Lord hear us.

From the *Constitutions* 10, p.12: Loving one another as sisters in Christ, we gladly accept and reverence every sister with affection and trust . . . We welcome and encourage the diversity of persons and gifts among us, since all contribute to the rich unity of our life.

Lord hear us.

From *Constitutions* 10, p.12. We gladly forego our own preferences for the sake of others and the common good, sharing in the self-denial implicit in the following of Christ.

Lord hear us.

From Buddhist discourse on Loving Kindness:

May every creature abound in well-being and peace.

May every living creature, the weak and the strong,

The mean and the great.

May all attain peace.

Lord hear us.

Just as a mother protects her son from hurt

So within my own self may I foster

A limitless concern for every creature,

And display a heart of boundless love for all the world

Lord hear us.

As we stand or walk or sit or lie,

May we devote our mind entirely to this

Love unrestrained.

It is known as living here a divine life.

Lord hear us.

Concluding song: *A Place at the Table* or any other.