

## Session 7 Emmaus: distance and embrace

### Closing liturgy

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We did not receive a spirit that makes us slaves to fear

**By your Spirit, You hold us as your children**

God of compassion and all comfort

**We rest in your loving-kindness, O God**

Hallowed be your name in the Beloved, by the Spirit

**As in the beginning so now and forever. Amen.**

We ask for God's eternal-life-giving to be known in our world in this between-the-moments time, saying: Living God

**change the world for good**

Foster discernment and provide the means to expose the false stories that offer legitimacy to destructive practices and habits; Living God

**change the world for good**

Among all your people, warm the hearts of poets and fire up the zeal of prophets to win minds and allegiances; Living God

**change the world for good**

Work healing into our atmosphere, seas and the living systems of the world; Living God

**change the world for good**

Raise up solidarity, salve hurting minds and hearts and unseat the forces arrayed against us; Living God

**change the world for good.**

*Other biddings, out-loud or in heart-quiet, may be added here, ending each:*

Living God

**change the world for good**

In our our needs, be our provider, Living God:

**change the world for good.**

*... holding before God our own needs ...*

O God, your unstinting providence sustains the world, our societies, our living: Take care for us, and keep us ever mindful that our common weal flows from each other's toil and care. Amen.

Full-lively God, we come to you sorrowing for our weaknesses and unbelief.

*Recollection of what we need to confess.*

Where we have embraced deathliness, and distanced the new life of the risen Christ.

Merciful God, forgive us.

**And restore us to life.**

Where we have distanced others by unforgiveness withholding the embrace of grace.

Forgive us, Merciful God

**And restore us to life-giving.**

Let us attend; Christ breathes upon us the peace and forgiveness of God.

*A moment for quiet reflection on our forgiveness.*

Jesus comes to us and says, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

He breathes on us and says; 'Receive the Holy Spirit'

*....Pause to reflect on Christ's presence and call before we return to the rest of our lives.*

Let us bless the Lord:

**Thanks be to God**

Who gives us the victory

**through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

