

The Good Mourning Confession

When Jesus establishes his Kingdom and God's love is all in all, there will be no more hatred, envy, or unforgiveness.

We together mourn the hatred, envy and unforgiveness of our current fallen world and we grieve over the massive amount of pain it brings. We commit to being a community of people who refuse to hate, who guard against envy, and who forgive others quickly. Maranatha!

When the earth has been fully purified by the love of God and God's kingdom is fully established, people from every tribe, tongue and nation shall be united together as a loving family as we gather around the throne of the Lamb. The one new humanity that Jesus died to create will finally be a beautiful visible reality.

We together mourn the racism, tribalism, and idolatrous nationalism that still characterizes our current fallen world and we grieve over the massive amount of pain these things bring. We commit to being a community of people who manifest God's "one new humanity" and who therefore embrace and celebrate the rich diversity of *the human race* rather than seeing it as a problem. Maranatha!

When God's loving reign defines the whole of reality, there will be no more idolatry, greed, gossip, jealousy, pride, lust, pettiness, or rebellion, for the love of God will have burned away everything inconsistent with God's loving character.

We together mourn the idolatry, greed, gossip, jealousy, pride, lust, pettiness, and rebellion that characterizes our current fallen world, and we grieve the massive amount of pain it brings. We commit to being a community of people who together strive to stay free from these and any other behaviors and attitudes that harm people and that separate us from the Father's heart. Maranatha!

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When the creation has finally been redeemed from the corrupting curse it is currently under and has been delivered from "its bondage to decay," there will be no more sickness, disease, parasites, or vires like that cursed Covid-19! Nature will finally reflect the benevolent character of the creator, "the lion will lay down with the lamb," and humans will carry out their mandate to reflect God's benevolent character as we exercise dominion over the earth an animal kingdom.

We together mourn the corruption of nature, the corruption of our environment, and the disregard many have for the welfare of the earth and animal kingdom. We commit to being a people who fulfill God's original mandate to reflect God's benevolent character as we make choices that impact the environment or the wellbeing of animals. Maranatha!

When the "new creation" that Jesus brought by his death and resurrection is fully manifested, there will be no more enemies and therefore no more violence. People will beat their weapons into farm tools to help grow more food for others.

We together mourn the violence that permeates our culture and the world. We commit to striving by the power of the Spirit to being a community of people who root out violence from our lives, thoughts and attitudes, and who instead are committing to making peace wherever we find conflict. Maranatha!

When the human race has finally been fully reconciled back to God and to one another, there will be no more poverty, homelessness, hunger, or loneliness. The love of the human community will reflect the love of the triune God, and no one shall ever again go without.

We together mourn the needless poverty, homelessness, hunger and loneliness that continues that plague our country and the world. We commit to being a community of people who and always willing to share our resources and our time with others who are in need, and we will consider our service to "the least of these" to be service to Jesus himself. Maranatha. Amen!