

Come, let us worship Christ the Saviour!
The Prince of Peace.

Atamelang, re rorise Kreste Mmoloki! Kgosana ya Kgotso.

Tlaang, re obameleng Kreste Mmoloki! Kgosana ya Kagiso.

Yizani, sidumise uKristu uMsindisi! Inkosi yokuthula.

Wozani, sidumise uKristu uMsindisi! OyiNkosi yoxolo. "Love, Justice, and Peace on Earth" is a worship resource for the use in various situations during the Advent and Christmas seasons of the Christian church.

Its aim is to be part of facilitating the process, which ensures the centrality of the vision and mission of God in Jesus Christ for the world during these seasons.

The booklet offers sample liturgies for celebration during Advent and Christmas and a wide variety of hymns and carols from the Anglican tradition in South Africa in the following languages: English, SeSotho, SeTswana, IsiXhosa and IsiZulu.

"Love, Justice, and Peace on Earth" is a way of encouraging Christians to enjoy and share their rich and meaningful musical, biblical, cultural and other traditions of this season. Hopefully, as Christians in South Africa today, we will add our own flavour and/or broaden these traditions.

Rev. Jacqueline Williams is a deacon in the Diocese of Pretoria of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. Presently she serves at St. Timothy's in the Reeds, Centurion.

ORDER FORM

Copies of "Love, Justice, and Peace on Earth" can be ordered from Williams & Calmer:

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REVIEW

by Rev. Sindile Sithole, Rector of St. Peter's Chains Anglican Church, Katlehong

Christmas is coming and every year we see one or more publications for the season: be it serious hymn- and liturgy-books, practical picture or drawing and handicraft-books for the kids or the CD's we hear in the supermarkets.

Special book for Advent & Christmas

This year we are treated to a very special book that is a combination of the season of Advent and Christmas, of hymns and liturgies, and of the English and African traditions of the church in Southern Africa.

The book is called "Love, Justice, and Peace on Earth" and calls itself a "worship resource for the use in diverse situations during the Advent and Christmas seasons of the Christian church".

The book offers sample liturgies for celebration during Advent and Christmas and a wide variety of hymns and carols from the Anglican tradition in South Africa in the following languages: English, SeSotho, SeTswana, IsiXhosa and IsiZulu.

Celebrate unity in diversity

And that's a wonderful thing to see in our transforming churches: that we disclose and share the different traditions of our country and our churches to one another through celebration of the birth of Christ, our Lord.

This is a perfect resource for people who wish to sing and worship together, and celebrate their unity in diversity. Jacque Williams did a good job by offering us sample liturgies that we can use in church, but also in our homes or when visiting prisons or hospitals. She also did well by giving some background information to the seasons of Advent and Christmas and practical suggestions on how to celebrate these events.

Different languages, same melodies

What I like most about the book is the selection of all the well-known and less-known hymns and carols of the season, in different languages, and its endeavour to use gender inclusive language in its liturgies. The book has a total of 150 songs in 5 languages, with the English melodies in classical music notation and the vernacular hymns in tonic sol-fa.

One could have asked why the author did not do it the other way around: in the township parishes we are used to singing from tonic sol-fa and in the former white parishes from classical notation. That would really have forced the respective traditions to make an effort to learn about the other tradition. But the book provides an overview of similar melodies in the various languages, so that one can sing tunes with verses from more than one language.

Spirit of Christmas

This resource will be a blessing for all those who are entrusted with the responsibility of planning worship in parishes, both lay and ordained. Be they church choirs, liturgy groups or clergy. I gladly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys singing during the season of Christmas, especially those who want to step out of singing in their own language and songs from their own tradition.

This book will not only benefit Anglicans, but all Christians who wish to seize the spirit of Christmas.