
EP Reflections

Acts 27

To pray is to act.

To act is to pray.



⁹ Much time had been lost [but not all] and the voyage was now dangerous. Paul warned those on the ship, ¹⁰ “I see that our voyage will suffer damage and great loss, not only for the cargo and ship but also for our lives.” ¹⁴ And, before long, a **hurricane-strength wind** known as a northeaster swept down from Crete. ¹⁵ The ship was caught in the storm and couldn’t be turned into the wind. **So we gave in to it, and it carried us along.**

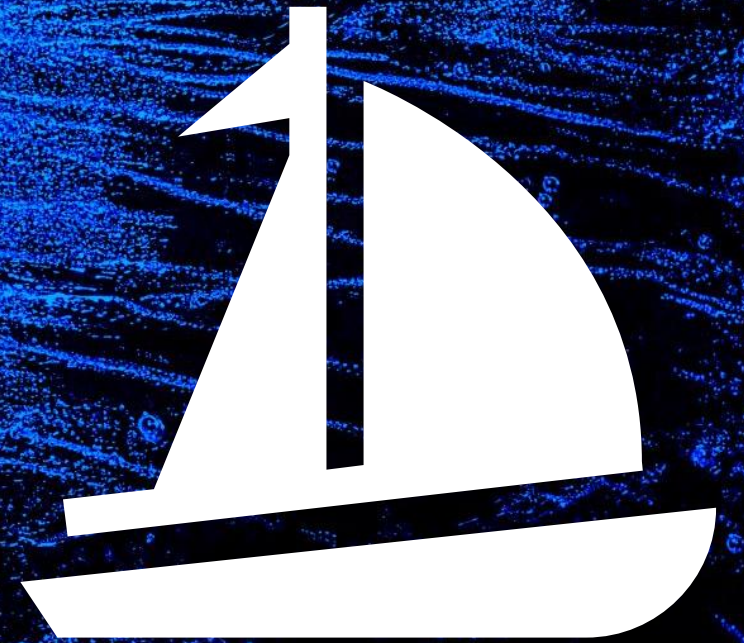
4 MOVEMENTS

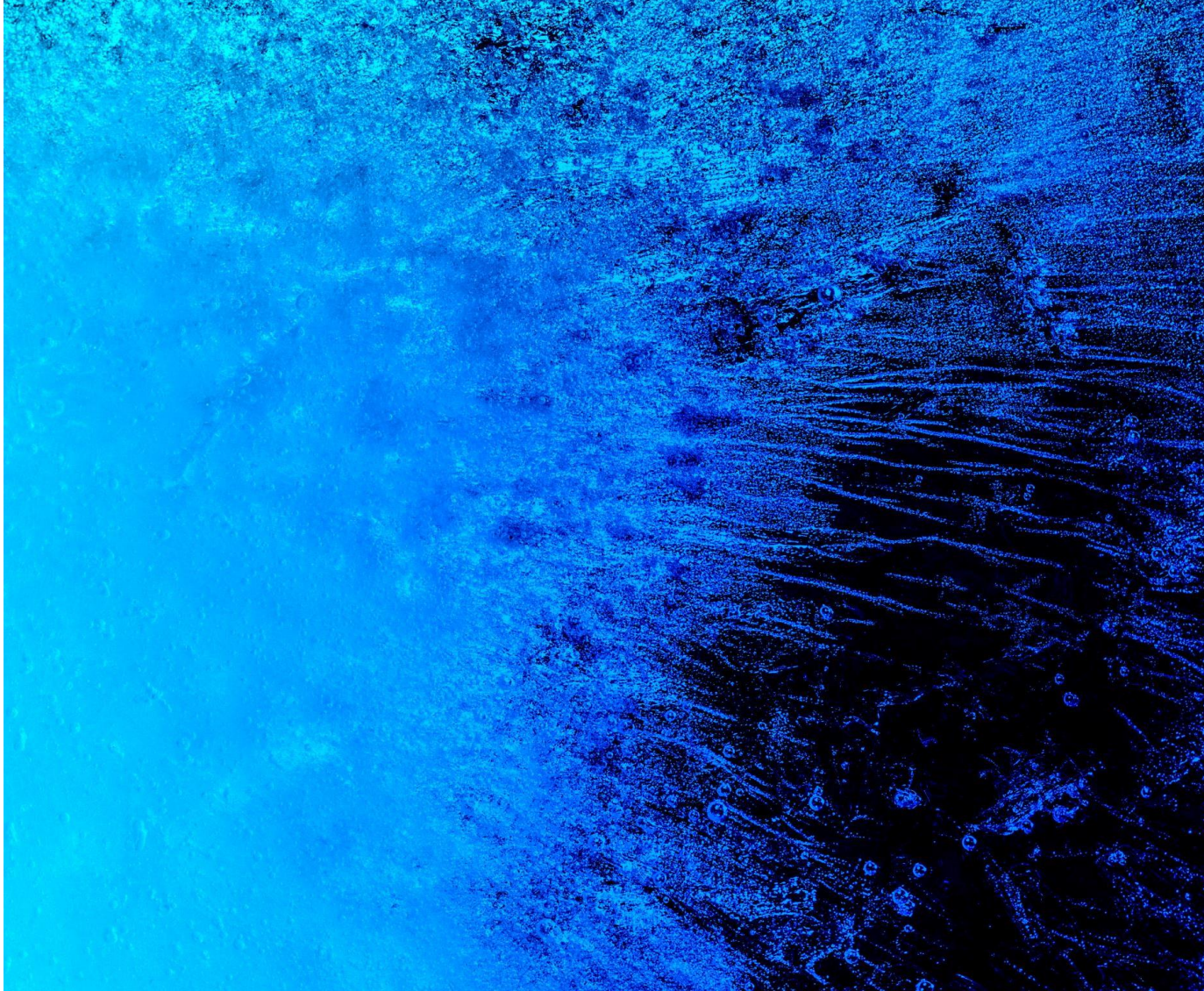
Paul's warning

Winds growing

Panic spreading

Angel appearing





**When we sit in
Scripture, savoring
its subtleties, we
sail into both/and
thinking.**





“So we gave into the wind, and it carried us along” – Acts 27:15

Winds Growing

**Are we caught
in a storm**

OR

***ready to sail into
something new?***

Leadership shift

8705 PC(USA) congregations
1.1 million PC(USA) members

Only 100-150 seminary graduates
considering congregational ministry

When we follow the Spirit's Lead ...

Send 2-3 members from your congregation to
the next
Trained Ruling Elder (TRE) class
in January 2026



Focus points

Pastoral
Care

Preaching

Mission
Engagement

Teaching

**When
we
follow
the
Spirit's
Lead ...**

Create intentional partnerships
between congregations



Focus points

Administration

Physical Space

Leadership

Mission
(Local and
Global)



Contextualized homegrown PASTORAL LEADERS
focused on community / intergenerational needs

GLOBAL EMPHASIS on
prayer and
mission partnerships

FUTURE OF FAITH

SACRED TOOLS FOR COURAGEOUS
CONNECTION

www.futureoffaith.org



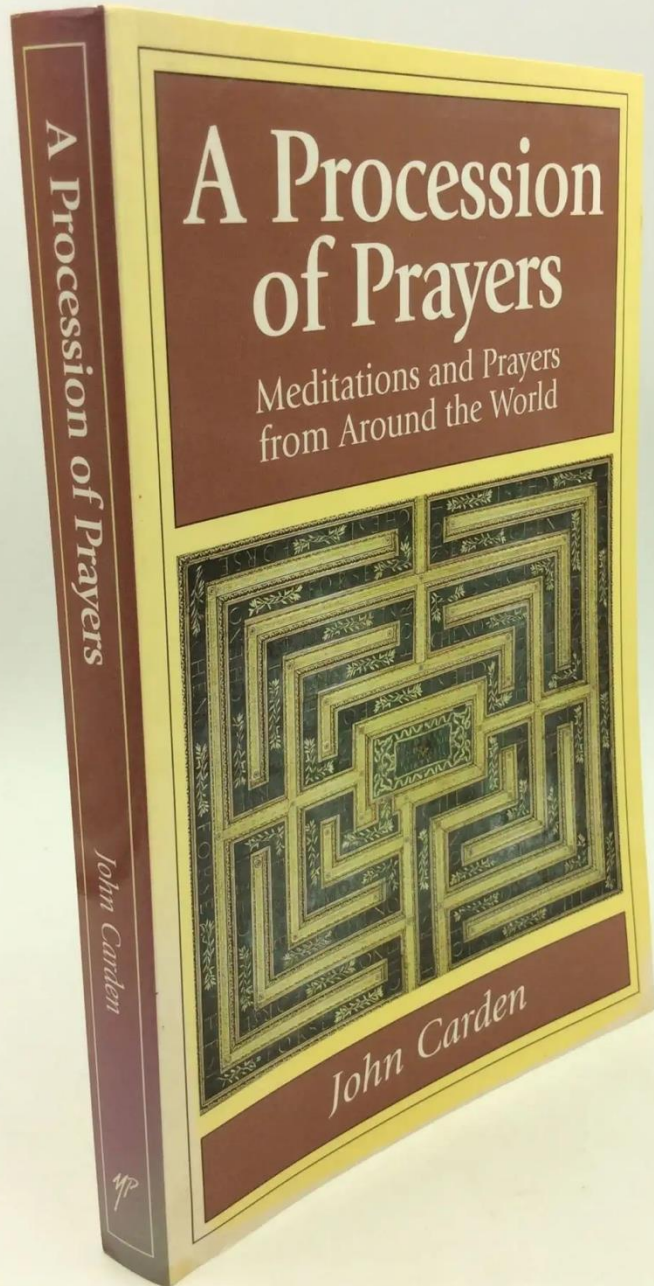


The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Prayer is at the very heart of the ecumenical movement. Jesus prayed that we - his followers - may all be one. When we pray with and for one another, we can feel God's gift of unity.

**[www.oikoumene.org/
resources/prayer-cycle](http://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle)**



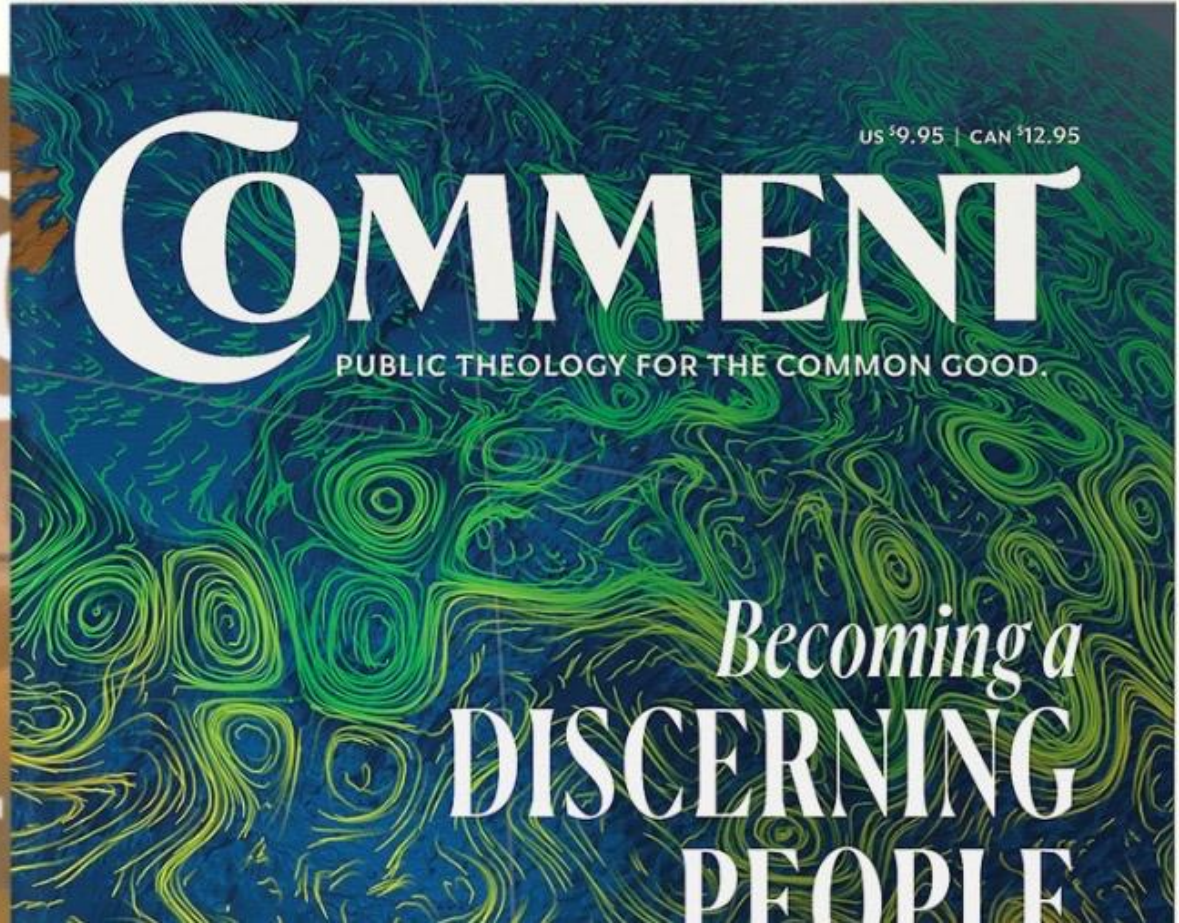


- mentioned and used by the **World Council of Churches**
- organized liturgically so you can easily find prayers for a particular church season
- uses prayers from all over the world in each liturgical season so that we can name our global interdependence and connection as we prepare weekly services

Example of an **ADVENT** prayer

O You who are our great Chief,
light a candle in my heart
that I may see all that is within,
and sweep the rubbish from your dwelling place.

(Africa: a schoolgirl's prayer)



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COMMENT

PUBLIC THEOLOGY FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

Becoming a
**DISCERNING
PEOPLE**

Pr



www. comment.org

Public Theology for the Common Good

But hope, at *Comment*, is what we are about.

Not as a passive wish, but as an act of vision and the glue of a community that will endure.

As we seek to articulate this vision through a diverse choir of voices at once thoughtful yet tested in the trenches of praxis and institutional innovation, **we row in the currents of a two-thousand-year-old tradition that has proved itself capable—time and again—of subverting the direction of popular despair.**



“So we gave into the wind, and it carried us along” – Acts 27:15



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