

**A Service of the Word [with Holy Communion]  
for the Weekend of Prayer for the Church and the World:  
7-9 September 2012**

**¶ Gathering to Worship God**

*Greeting*

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Words of welcome and introduction may follow.*

*Explain that this weekend is one where Christians across the UK in many denominations are being invited to pray with and for each other. Whether people believe in God or not, most people pray at some point in their lifetime. They may pray for themselves or they might pray for other people or situations. Today we spend some time thinking about prayer, about how to pray in different ways, and reflecting on how prayer influences our world. We will also spend time in prayer.*

*Opening Prayer*

**Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.**

**Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*A hymn or song may be sung.*

## *Confessing our sins*

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden,  
to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:  
fill us with your Spirit.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:  
fill us with your Spirit.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:  
fill us with your Spirit.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*The priest says this, or another authorized absolution*

May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive you your sins  
and make you holy  
to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*The Gloria in excelsis or another hymn or song of praise may be sung here*

*The Collect of the day or of the week is said here.*

# ¶Hearing and responding to the Word of God

## Readings

### *Suggested readings:*

*Isaiah 49: 1-6 or Micah 4: 1-5*

*Psalm 146 may be said or sung between readings*

*James 2:1-10 or Acts 17: 10-end*

*On Sundays and at all other times when Holy Communion is celebrated, the Gospel reading must be included.*

*Mark 7:24-37 or Matthew 6:5-18*

## Response

### The Sermon.

*This may include a discussion or activities for different age groups. The following may be helpful.*

*QUESTION: What is the most famous prayer in the world? (the answer to this is not as important as hearing the ideas of what prayers might be said.)*

*CLIP: show the clip of the post-it notes from Bruce Almighty.*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0cGI1ITSIE>

*ACTIVITY: Hand out post-it notes – invite people to write prayers for others in the world on the post-it notes. Use these in the prayers of intercessions.*

*CLIP for reflection after the Sermon - Lord's Prayer – Bocelli version*  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEplqV0scyo>  
*or Matt Maher 'As it is in heaven' - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2OhCx07UNY8>*

## Declaring our Faith

*This, or another authorized Affirmation of Faith or the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed should be used on Sundays and at celebrations of Holy Communion.*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*The prayers may include responses such as*

Lord in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*or*

Your kingdom come  
**Your will be done.**

*The prayers may end with*

God of mercy,  
**you know us and love us  
and hear our prayer:  
keep us in the eternal fellowship of  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

*If there is to be no celebration of Holy Communion, the service may conclude with the Lord's Prayer, a suitable blessing, conclusion or dismissal and further hymns or songs may be sung.*

*Otherwise the service continues as follows:*

### ¶The Liturgy of the Sacrament

#### Sharing the Peace

*The following is said*

We are the body of Christ.  
**By one Spirit we were baptized into one body.**  
Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
**We are bound by the love of Christ.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*All may exchange the sign of peace.*

*A hymn or song may be sung.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*An authorized Eucharistic Prayer is used*

*This short proper preface may be used in Eucharistic Prayers A, B and C*

And now we give you thanks  
because by the Holy Spirit you lead us into all truth,  
and give us power to proclaim your gospel to the nations  
and to serve you as a holy people.

*This Extended Responsorial Preface may be used in Eucharistic Prayers A,  
B and E*

Lord of heaven and earth,  
you made the whole human race.  
You have shown to us in Christ the mystery  
of your purpose:  
you chose us all in Christ  
**to praise his glory.**

You will bring all things together under Christ,  
all things in heaven, all things on earth,  
under him as head:  
you chose us all in Christ  
**to praise his glory.**

We have heard the word of truth,  
the good news of salvation,  
you have marked us with the seal of your Spirit:  
you chose us all in Christ  
**to praise his glory.**

We who once were far away  
have been brought near by the blood of Christ:  
you chose us all in Christ  
**to praise his glory.**

He is our peace,  
and has broken down the barrier of hostility.  
He has made us into one new humanity  
and reconciled us to you by the cross:  
you chose us all in Christ  
**to praise his glory.**

Through him we come, by the Spirit,  
to you, our Father in heaven, *saying:*

*The Sanctus follows*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray,

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## **The Giving of Communion**

*An authorized invitation to Communion is used.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

*If either or both of the consecrated elements are likely to prove insufficient, the president returns to the holy table and adds more, saying authorized words.*

*Any consecrated bread and wine which is not required for purposes of communion is consumed at the end of the distribution or after the service.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## ¶ The Dismissal

*Going out into the world*

To a troubled world  
**peace from Christ.**  
To a searching world  
**love from Christ.**  
To a waiting world  
**hope from Christ.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
through the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*A hymn or song may be sung or music played as the ministers depart.*

*Some other prayers which may be used in the context of prayer for the world, the church and for mission.*

*A Prayer to be used by young people*

Dear God,  
Thank you for loving me.  
Thank you that Jesus shows me how I should live your way.  
It's not always easy to talk to my friends about you.  
Sometimes they laugh. Sometimes they don't want to listen.  
Sometimes I just don't know what to say.  
So when I can't say anything,  
please help my actions show my friends that you love them:  
Help me to be a friend to the ones who are ignored.  
Help me to stand up for the ones who are teased.  
Help me to use kind words, not hurtful ones.  
Help me to be caring and honest.  
I won't always get it right, so please give me the strength  
of your Holy Spirit to do the very best I can.  
And when they ask me why I'm doing what I do,  
please give me the words to say that it's because  
I love you.  
Amen.

*A Prayer to be used by young people*

Our Father – you are in heaven.  
And you're also in my school.  
I pray for my school:  
    for my friends and classmates;  
    for the teachers and staff;  
    for the Governors and visitors.  
I know that you love them as much as you love me.  
Give me the words I need to be able to talk about you.  
Give me the strength to act with kindness and care.  
Give me the courage to stand up for right.  
Our Father – you are in heaven. And you're also in my school.  
And you are with me right now.  
Thank you.  
Amen.

## *A Prayer for the Growth of the Church*

God our Creator and Redeemer,  
help your church to grow in holiness, unity,  
effectiveness and numbers.  
Draw us closer to you and to those around us.  
Give us enthusiasm in our faith,  
and wisdom in sharing it with young and old.  
Open our eyes to new opportunities,  
our lips to sing and speak of you,  
and our hearts to welcome the stranger.  
Grow your kingdom in us and in the world,  
through the intercession of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Bishop Mike Bourke*

## **Suggested Hymns and Songs:**

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart (Common Praise 386)*  
*Beauty for brokenness (Sing Glory 263)*  
*Come to be our hope, Lord Jesus (Sing Glory 273)*  
*Fight the good fight (Common Praise 423)*  
*Forth in the peace of Christ we go (New English Hymnal 361)*  
*Glory to God, the source of all our mission (Sing Praise 155)*  
*Go to the world! (Sing Praise 156)*  
*Here from all nations, all tongues and all peoples (Common Praise 462)*  
*In Christ there is no east or west (Common Praise 477)*  
*Jesus Christ is waiting (Sing Glory 624)*  
*Jesus, good above all other (Common Praise 487)*  
*Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided (Common Praise 81)*  
*Lord, the light of your love is shining (Common Praise 513)*  
*O Lord, the clouds are gathering (Sing Glory 255)*  
*Praise my soul the King of Heaven (New English Hymnal 436)*  
*Tell all the world of Jesus (Sing Glory 608)*  
*We are called to stand together (Sing Glory 607)*  
*We are marching in the light of God (Sing Praise 235)*  
*We bring you, Lord, our prayer and praise (Common Praise 611)*  
*We'll walk the land (Sing Glory 617)*

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