

A Service of Morning Prayer During Lent

WELCOME

GATHERING

Leader: +In the name of God, the Creator, the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: O Lord, open our lips

All: **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence,
O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Gracious and ever-living God

All: **you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent. May this time be one of outward focus; seeking you in those we often ignore. Help us live a Lent focused on compassion, generosity, and encounter. Give us hearts hungry to serve you and those who need what we have to give. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Leader: Wonderous God, you have brought us to this thin place where heaven and earth embrace.
Here we bask in your peace and grace

All: **and open our hearts to your holy Word.**

SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

INTERCESSIONS

One: Let us pray.

Holy God, who shows us the way of life and love, we make our prayer to you, saying,
Lord in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: Covenanting God, write in our hearts your law of love, love of friend and neighbour,
love of stranger, love of your creation, love of you revealed, love of you at work, love of you our
Creator. Lord in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

One: Compassionate God, turn our hands to the work of love, in giving generously, with open hearts
and hands, to the purpose of justice, the liberation of captives, the feeding of the hungry, the
clothing of the naked, the transforming of our systems of oppression. Lord in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**



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One: Imaginative God, turn our minds to the ways of love. inspire and sustain by your Spirit all who mirror your creativity, in music and word, in dance and song, in paint and pottery, in story and film. We thank you for the ways they speak to us and revive our souls. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Life-bringing God, turn our daily living to the patterns of love, turn our days to include others, to reach out to show care, to build up the broken, to tend the forlorn, to comfort the grieving, and to encourage the hopeless. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Strengthening God, turn our steps to the ways of healing. Bless the health care workers, inspire the minds of those who develop treatments and cures, and by your Holy Spirit, bring to those who suffer relief from pain, comfort, and courage along the paths of wholeness. We name before you in this silence, those we know to be in need at this time...

Silence is kept.

Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Merciful God, look upon your whole Church, walking the way of Lent, and recalling in these coming days, the shouts of Hosanna! the washing of feet, the drama of arrest, the cost of love and sacrifice, and the promise of life that overcomes the ways of death. Transform your church, that following your Son with renewed faith, we may share his story of love in new, creative and life-giving ways. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.

Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN