

A Liturgy for Mission

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

A light no darkness can extinguish.

We give glory and thanks to you, O God;
In the midst of suffering and death
We find hope,
Through the gift of new life we share your wholeness
And beyond all our endings we encounter
The mystery of your love.
To you, creative and empowering God
Be all thanksgiving and praise,
Here and everywhere,
May we be filled with thankfulness, O God,
All the days of our life, **Amen.**¹

A Psalm and one or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks Be to God.²

Blessed are you Creator and Sustainer of the universe,
Who brings forth bread from the earth.
You have given us your peace,
and set a hunger in our hearts.
Restore our strength.
Give new energy to tired limbs, new thought to weary minds.
This is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

Lord, we are honoured that you call us your friends.
Call us afresh to know and experience your love;
For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

Fill us afresh with your Holy Spirit that we may use the gifts you have given each one of us with courage and compassion;
For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

Open our eyes Lord, to see your grace at work beyond our church buildings and institutions;
For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

¹ Retrieved from <http://progressivechristianity.org/resources/worship-materials-thankfulness-and-rejoicing/>. Adapted from "Sacred Energy / Mass of the Universe".

² From 'A New Zealand Prayer Book - He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa'

Help us Lord, to work with you in building communities of faith allowing your Gospel to be expressed in our hurting world;

For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

May we proclaim afresh your faithfulness and constant love in a changing and uncertain world;

For this is your mission, Lord. We're in this together!

Let us see with the eyes of faith;

For mission is seeing what You, God, are doing and joining in.

For the building of Your kingdom and to the glory of Your name;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.³

Gospel or other New Testament Reading as appointed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks Be to God.⁴

Intercessory Prayer

Come to us, God of peace.

Come with your healing and your reconciling power.

Come, that fear may be cast out by love;

that weapons may be replaced by trust;

that violence may give way to gentleness.

Come to us, God of peace.

Come to us, God of justice.

Come with your righteous judgments and your mercy.

Come, that we may hear the cries of the oppressed in every land;

that we may see the suffering of the poor in our own land;

that we may return to the way of righteousness and compassion.

Come to us, God of justice.

Come to us, God of love.

Come with your extravagant kindness and your goodness.

Come, that we may see you in the people of every race and culture;

that we may embrace you in the lonely, the bereaved, and the rejected;

that we may be an accepting and a caring church.

Come to us, God of love.

³ Versicles retrieved & adapted from 'Mission Shaped Intro Course', *Fresh Expressions UK*.
<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/msi>

⁴ From 'A New Zealand Prayer Book - He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa'

Come to us, God of unity.

Come with your forgiveness and your healing grace.
Come, that we may witness to reconciliation for a divided world;
that we may gather around Christ's table as one people;
that we may affirm one church, one faith, one Lord.

Come to us, God of unity.

Come to us, God of hope.

Come to us with your promises; come in your mysterious presence.
Come, that we may marvel at your faithfulness in past generations;
that we may celebrate the new things you are doing among us today;
that we may be your pilgrim people on our journey to your kingdom.

Come to us, God of hope.⁵

Come to us, O God, as we gather together and pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Song or Silent Meditation

Closing prayer

May the fire of Christ consume all indifference to God,
The light of Christ illumine our vision of God,
The love of Christ enlarge our longing for God,
The Spirit of Christ empower our service to God,
And the Blessing of God Almighty, Holy Trinity
Be among us, and remain with us always. **Amen.**⁶

⁵ Claralice Wolf (9 May 2014), 'Litany of Praise & Confession.' Retrieved from <http://progressivechristianity.org/resources/litany-of-praise-and-confession/>

⁶ Adapted & retrieved from 'Mission Shaped Intro Course', *Fresh Expressions UK*.
<http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/msi>