



WAVE OF PRAYER MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH 2023

WELCOME & GATHERING

Welcome to our Mothers' Union Service. We gather in gratitude for God's faithfulness over the last year. We gather to look ahead with fresh vision.

God has plans for us and for Mothers' Union locally and worldwide. May we trust in God and seek to join in with those plans.

HYMN (optional)

PRAYER OF PREPARTION

With thankfulness and love we take our place
in the family of Mothers' Union worldwide.

**Open our eyes to the significance of relationship
with members worldwide, with those known to us or not.**

With support and love we reach out
to our sisters and brothers across the world.

**Strengthen our commitment to those with whom
we share vision and values, wherever we may live.**

In unity and love we link hands
with our worldwide family of God.

**Unite us in worship; build us in service,
as together we seek to share your love.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

CONFESSION

Lord God,
Your love sees failings
and forgives.
Your love feels pain
and wipes away our tears.
Your love knows grief,
and comforts the sorrowful.
Your love sees sin
and still loves the sinner.

**Forgive us when we fail to live
lives that reflect your love.
Forgive us the many times
when we take for granted
all that you have done for us.
Transform us, through your Spirit,
and empower us to serve you
this day and all days. Amen**

ABSOLUTION

May our loving Lord bless us
with forgiveness and grace
that we may be renewed
in hope and confidence
to gladly serve his world. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 10:30 -37

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

In response to being asked who is my neighbour:

³⁰ Jesus replied, 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, ^[a] gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend." ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' ³⁷ He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

TALK / SHARING OF STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION / TOUCHING LIVES FOR CHRIST

HYMN (optional)

INTERCESSIONS

Gracious God, make known to us your plans for peace and wellbeing; help us to put our trust in you, and to join in faith with your plans for the good of all people.

Lord, we pray that lives would be transformed into ones of self-respect and sufficiency through effective use of your resources.

We pray that families would be transformed into strong and loving households as they explore your ways for relationship.

We pray that communities would be transformed into ones of resilience and prosperity through trust and cooperation.

Gracious God, guide us in your plans for peace and wellbeing; **Amen**

As we come to give thanks for Mothers' Union Worldwide, may God encourage us in heart and unite us in love.

We pray for our World Wide President, Sheran Harper, Provincial President, Kathryn Anderson, and Diocesan President Helen Lynett and all who serve our Diocese.

We pray for our link dioceses:

Loving Lord, we bring to you our praise for the fellowship and prayer support that we have through our links with the dioceses of: Oyo and Aba Ngwa North in Nigeria; the diocese of Rumbek in South Sudan; the diocese of Soroti in Uganda; the diocese of North Eastern Caribbean & Aruba; and for our continuing Diocesan link with South Korea.

We give thanks for the blessing of being united in prayer with our link dioceses.

We pledge to continue to remember our sisters and brothers in prayer

We pray for all members.

**May God be with them in every part of their lives,
encouraging them and leading them,
sheltering and strengthening them,
so they may work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

We join together in the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Almighty God, as you have loved us and made us your friends,
so you have called us to love one another.

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

A Service of Communion can be included here.

HYMN (optional)

THE MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER

Loving Lord,
we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.
We pray for families around the world.
Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share
your love through the encouragement, strengthening and
support of marriage and family life.
Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in
love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name.
Amen.

THE BLESSING

May all that we are, everything we think, say and do, be blessed by God, constantly renewed and daily transformed through his awesome power and unfailing love. **Amen**

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! **Amen**

As we go from this place let us join together to say the transforming words of the grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of god, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord Alleluia, Alleluia

Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia