

**6. THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE** *(stand)*

*Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled your people to yourself. Following his example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love.*

*Most loving God,  
you send us into the world you love.  
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage  
in the power of your Spirit.*

*May the Lord bless us and keep us,  
May the Lord make his face shine upon us, and be gracious to us,  
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. Amen.*

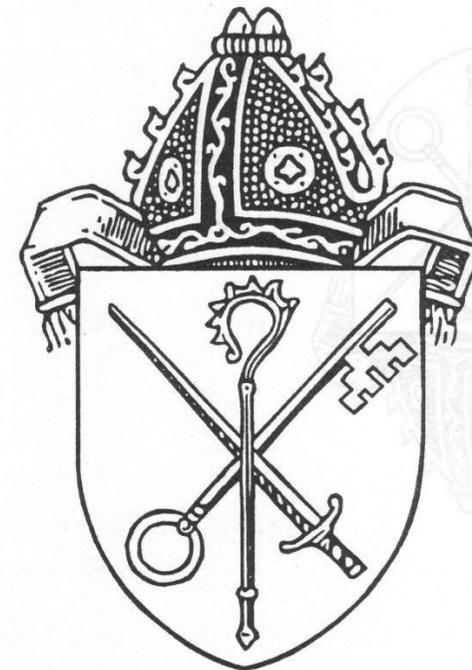
*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.*

*Final hymn*

PLEASE LEAVE THIS BOOKLET AT THE CHURCH DOOR

A SERVICE OF  
MORNING or EVENING  
PRAYER  
FOR USE DURING LENT

taken entirely from A Prayer Book for Australia



## **1. GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME** (stand)

Opening hymn

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins :

**Whose mercy endures for ever.**

The Lord be with you:

**And also with you.**

Sentence of scripture.

Prayer of preparation:

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden,  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the commandments which God gave his people Israel:

1. *I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of slavery.*

*You shall have no other Gods but me.*

**R: Lord, have mercy upon us and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

2. *You shall not make for yourself any graven image. You shall not bow down to them or worship them. R.*

3. *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. R.*

4. *Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shall you labour and do all you have to do, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord you God. R.*

5. *Honour your father and your mother. R.*

6. *You shall do no murder. R.*

7. *You shall not commit adultery. R.*

8. *You shall not steal. R.*

9. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. R.*

10. *You shall not covet anything that is your neighbour's.*

**Final response:** *Lord, have mercy upon us, and write your law in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.*

**Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

Accept our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,

the shepherd of Israel,

their pillar of cloud by day,

their pillar of fire by night.

In these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance,

that in this pilgrimage of prayer

we might learn to be your people once more.

In fasting and service you bring us back to your heart.

You open our eyes to your presence in the world,

and you free our hands to lead others

to the radiant splendour of your mercy.

Be with us in these journey days,

for without you we are lost and will perish.

To you alone be dominion and glory,

for ever and ever. **Amen**

#### **4. THE GREETING OF PEACE & OFFERING** (stand)

We are the Body of Christ :

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you :

**And also with you**

Sharing of the peace.

Hymn & offertory collection.

Offering prayer:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory

And for the service of your kingdom.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

#### **5. THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER** (kneel or sit)

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance,

**Govern and uphold them now and always.**

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin;,

**Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

We long for your salvation, O Lord,

**Grant us understanding, that we may live.**

Lord, show us your love and mercy,

**For we put our trust in you.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God,

**And renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

The prayer for the day.

The intercessions.

#### **2. THE CONFESSION** (kneel)

The Bible tells us to approach God confidently, through our Lord Jesus Christ. As we do so, we must confess our sins, seeking forgiveness through God's boundless goodness and mercy.

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

(a time of silence)

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,**

**we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word and deed,**

**and in what we have failed to do:**

**we have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;**

**we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.**

**Father, forgive us.**

**Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Words of consolation and assurance:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (1John 2:1-2)

### **3. THE MINISTRY OF GOD'S WORD** *(sit)*

*Almighty God, we thank you for your holy word. May it be a lantern to our feet, a light to our paths, and strength to our lives, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*First Bible reading.*

*For the word of the Lord : **Thanks be to God.***

*Psalm.*

*Second Bible reading.*

*For the word of the Lord : **Thanks be to God.***

*Hymn.*

*Gospel reading.*

*The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to .....*

***Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

*This is the Gospel of the Lord :*

***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

*The sermon.*

*The Nicene creed:*

***We believe in one God,***

***the Father, the almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,***

***the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.***

***For us and for our salvation***

***he came down from heaven,***

***was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;***

***he suffered death and was buried.***

***On the third day he rose again***

***in accordance with the scriptures;***

***he ascended into heaven***

***and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

***He will come again in glory***

***to judge the living and the dead***

***and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,***

***who proceeds from the Father and the Son,***

***who with the Father and the Son***

***is worshipped and glorified,***

***who has spoken through the prophets.***

***We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.***

***We acknowledge one baptism***

***for the forgiveness of sins.***

***We look for the resurrection of the dead,***

***and the life of the world to come. Amen.***