



GIVING FOR LIFE

LITURGICAL MATERIAL

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF
GLOUCESTER

Prepared by the Giving and Resources Group

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Introduction

This pack is a bundle of liturgy, out of which appropriate resources can be drawn to create the services which are suggested as a platform from which to launch the Parish Giving Scheme in your community.

The material is divided into three sections, which correspond with the three 'events', or services mentioned in the scheme. To recap, they are

Sunday 1) God gives to us

This service focuses on God's generosity to us, and our response to that generosity

Sunday 2) We give to God

This service focuses on the specific responses we make to God and the impact of our giving of money to the Church.

It is envisaged that these two services will take place on consecutive Sundays, or at least on two Sundays very close to each other, at the launch of the PGS in the parish. It may also be appropriate in certain specific situations to create a hybrid order of service for a single service where these two themes are conflated. This conflated service is not the ideal, and the provision is made with multi-parochial benefices in mind, where there may not be a regular service in each parish. If you wish to have some assistance creating this single service covering both themes, do be in touch with the Diocesan Worship Officer.

Sunday 3) Giving Thanks

A thanksgiving for the generosity shown.

This service will take place some time after the first two, when the parish has begun to make its response.

In each section you will find a collection of texts for the Eucharist, which can also be used in any other service of worship as appropriate. The president and those involved in planning the service should feel free to select as much or as little of the material as seems appropriate for their particular context.

You will also find an outline order of service for a ‘stand-alone’ service of worship for each of the three services, which is designed as an all-age worship service.

These resources are designed for use at any time of the year. Particularly appropriate times in the Calendar to begin the PGS scheme might be Lent, with its emphasis on the disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; Pentecost, as we remember the gifting of the Spirit; and the Harvest/Dedication Festival period of September-October. It is hoped that in time some material will be produced which is more specific to these periods, though much of the current seasonal provisions are very appropriate too.

Acknowledgements:

The following shorthand has been used within the material provided:

CW: refers to the *Common Worship* “main volume” (The black book)

TS: refers to *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

NPW: refers to *New Patterns for Worship*

Any material not otherwise acknowledged is a composition by the Diocesan Worship Officer for this resource pack.

¶ Service I – God gives to us

The emphasis in this act of worship is on thanksgiving to God for his goodness to us in creation, and a reminder to the people in your community that everything that we have is a gift from God, and that our giving back to him of anything: praise, service, time and indeed money, is a reaction, or response, to his redemptive love.

Seasonal Material: page 7

Sample Order of Service: page 17

Seasonal Material

Sentences from Scripture

*All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you*

1 Chron 29:14

*God saw everything that he had made,
And indeed it was very good*

Gen 1:31

*Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you
I have called you by name, you are mine*

Is 43:1

*You are worthy, our Lord and God,
To receive honour and glory and power,
From you created all things,
And by your will they have their being*

Revelation 4:11

Invitations to Confession

*God has redeemed us,
called us by name and made us his own,
And yet we forget that all we have is gift.*

After Is 43

*Let us confess our desire
to place ourselves at the heart of creation:*

Kyrie Confession

*You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;
yet we have misused the earth
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.
Lord, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy.

You have brought order out of chaos,
light in darkness, good out of evil,
but we have preferred darkness
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You have showered us with blessings,
but we have been grudging towards others
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

TS p600 B3

Lord, you give us this good earth,
yet we take your generous gifts for granted.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth,
but we squander its rich resources.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this good earth,
but we fail to share your bounty with all of your children.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

TS p609 B1

Suggested Confession

**God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.**

**We turn from the wrong
that we have thought and said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.**

**For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

NPW B40

(or)

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.**

**Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.**

**Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

NPW B43

Suggested Absolution

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from your sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

NPW B80

(or)

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

Amen.

NPW B82

Collect

This Collect is suitable for use when the service is not the principle service on a Sunday, when the Collect of the Day or Feast would take precedence. Alternatively this Collect may be used as a post-Communion at any time, or as the daily Collect during the period between the two services.

God our creator,
you give us breath and speech,
you call us by name and gather us to yourself;
may we respond to your goodness
with open hearts and lives of faith,
in the power of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord...

Response after the reading(s)

All things come from you, O Lord,
And of your own do we give you.

(or)

For the gift of the Word of life
Thanks be to God

Readings and sermon notes

During the period between Advent Sunday and 2nd February, and between Ash Wednesday and Trinity, the readings of the day should normally be used, if the service is the main Sunday Eucharist. At other times, these suggested readings, or other appropriate passages of Scripture may be used.

Genesis 1:1-31 - Creation

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 – *Do not forget the Lord*

Isaiah 43:1-4a – *Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you*

Psalms 126 – *The seed for sowing*

Romans 8:28-30 – *all things work together for those who love God*

Ephesians 1:3-10 – *In him we have redemption*

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-24 – *The parable of the sower*

Matthew 14:13-21 – *The feeding of the five thousand*

Sermon notes are provided elsewhere in the PGS resource pack.

Intercessions

[We pray for God's grace.

Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.]

Lord God, through your grace we are your people:

through your Son you have redeemed us;

in your Spirit you have made us as your own.

We pray for... (*new Christians, the Church*)

Make our hearts respond to your love.

Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

We pray for... *(the world, society, the local community)*
 Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

We pray for... *(people in need, Christian service)*
 Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

We give thanks for...
 Make our voices one with all your people
 in heaven and on earth.
 Lord of life,

**hear our prayer,
 and make us one in heart and mind
 to serve you with joy for ever.**

Amen.

NPW F45

[Let us pray to God,
 that he will bring to fruition all that he desires
 for his creation.
 Father, Lord of creation,
in your mercy, hear us.]

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,
 and have blessed humankind in making us
 stewards of the earth.
 We pray for your world,
 that we may share and conserve its resources,
 and live in reverence for the creation
 and in harmony with one another.
 Father, Lord of creation,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have given the human race a rich land,
a land of streams and springs,
wheat and barley,
vines and oil and honey.
We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow.
We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction,
that they may come to share the life of wholeness
and plenty.
Father, Lord of creation,
in your mercy, hear us.

In Christ you call us to a new way of life,
loving our neighbours before ourselves.
Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is
as we live in hope and anticipation of the world
as it will be when your kingdom comes and your will is done.

Thank you for those, living and departed,
who have shown a true respect for your creation ...
Help us to follow in their footsteps,
until, with them, we see you face to face,
where all is made new in Christ our Lord.
Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

NPW F47

In addition, the following prayer might be added within an existing set of intercessions, or incorporated into a more informal period of prayer:

Generous God,
 we give thanks to you for all your goodness:
 for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life.
 We pray for those whose enjoyment of creation is marred
 by the cruelty which humanity inflicts one upon another...
 We pray that our hearts and our ears may be open to their cries,
 and that we may use our freedom wisely and well
 in the service of your glory.
 [Lord, in your mercy (or other response)]

At BCP services, the use of the General Thanksgiving might be particularly appropriate.

Introduction to the Peace

The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
 but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
 The peace of the Lord be always with you. NPW H39

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
 the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
 for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

**All things come from you,
 and of your own do we give you.** CW p291

God our Creator,
 as we offer to you that which you have freely given us,
 grant that we may seek your kingdom
 and your righteousness,
 with generous hearts and minds.

Amen.

Suggested Proper Preface

And now we give you thanks
because you make us stewards of your creation,
to praise you day by day
for the marvels of your wisdom and power.

TS p630 LI

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

Through him you have created us in your own image,
and made us stewards of your good creation.
Through him you teach us to exult in the birds of the air,
the lilies of the field, the precious and life-giving crops of the earth.

Through him you free us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to die upon the cross
and to rise again for our salvation.

Through him, you begin your work of new creation,
as we look for a new heaven and a new earth
in which your righteousness dwells.

Therefore, we join with angels and archangels,
and give voice to every creature under heaven,
for ever praising you and saying:

TS p613 MI

Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

Created in God's image, and by his love,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray/Let us pray with confidence...

Blessing

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;
and the blessing ...

NPW J69

¶ *Sample Order for Service I*
God gives to us: a celebration of God's
goodness and grace

Gathering to Worship God

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

Words of welcome and introduction may follow.

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 songs may be sung.

Silence is kept and then the following Collect is said.

God our creator,
you give us breath and speech,
you call us by name and gather us to yourself;
may we respond to your goodness
with open hearts and lives of faith,
in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Saying Sorry to God

Confession

God has redeemed us,
called us by name and made us his own,
And yet we forget that all we have is gift.

After Is 43

Let us confess our desire to place ourselves at the heart of creation:

We keep a moment of quiet for reflection

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;
yet we have misused the earth
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You have brought order out of chaos,
light in darkness, good out of evil,
but we have preferred darkness
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You have showered us with blessings,
but we have been grudging towards others
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

NPW B80

Praise

These words may be said

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

A hymn or song(s) may be sung.

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

Readings

Readings may be selected from the options in the resource section

A psalm, hymn or songs may be sung between readings or before or after the Response.

After each reading the following response is used

For the gift of the Word of life
Thanks be to God

Response

This may include a sermon or talk, discussion and activities for different age groups.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers are led by a member of the church family. They may follow this pattern, or be composed for the occasion.

We pray for God's grace.
Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

Lord God, through your grace we are your people:
through your Son you have redeemed us;
in your Spirit you have made us as your own.

We pray for... (new Christians, the Church)
Make our hearts respond to your love.
Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

We pray for... (the world, society, the local community)
Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.
Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

We pray for... (people in need, Christian service)
Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.
Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

We give thanks for...

Make our voices one with all your people in heaven and on earth
Lord receive our praise

and answer our prayer.

Generous God,
we give thanks to you for all your goodness:
for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life.
We pray for those whose enjoyment of creation is marred
by the cruelty which humanity inflicts one upon another...
We pray that our hearts and our ears may be open to their cries,
And that we may use our freedom wisely and well
In the service of your glory.

Created in God's image, and by his love,
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.**

Going out to serve God

A hymn or song(s) may be sung.

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

This blessing may be used

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 who is the source of all goodness and growth,
 pour his blessing upon all things created,
 and upon you his children,
 that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;
 and the blessing ...

New Patterns J69

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

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Other material from the Common Worship family as indicated. All unattributed material composed by the Revd Tom Clammer for this resource pack.

¶ Service 2 –We give to God

The emphasis in this act of worship is on the nature of our response to God’s goodness, and specifically in our sacrificial giving of money to sustain the life of the church. Teaching and preaching in this service will be on the specific ways in which the ministry of the church is financed. It may be appropriate in some settings for the treasurer to play some part in this service.

Seasonal Material: page 25

Sample Order of Service: page 30

Seasonal Material

Sentences from Scripture

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you *1 Chron 29:14*

May the gracious favour of the Lord be upon us;
Prosper our handiwork;
O prosper the work of our hands *Psalm 90:17*

Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God,
For it is he who gives you power to get wealth *Deut 8:11,18*

The Lord brought us out of Egypt,
With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground
that you, O Lord, have given me *Deut 26:8, 10*

Invitations to Confession

When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses
and live in them
when your silver and gold is multiplied,
and all that you have is multiplied,
take care that you do not forget God,
for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.

We confess our sins: *after Deut 8*

Kyrie Confession

We confess to you
our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you
our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you
our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

TS p624 B3

Suggested Confession

As for Sunday I

Suggested Absolution

As for Sunday I

Collect

This Collect is suitable for use when the service is not the principle service on a Sunday, when the Collect of the Day or Feast would take precedence. Alternatively this Collect may be used as a post-Communion at any time, or as the daily Collect on the weekdays after the second service.

God, from whom all good things come,
you shower us with blessings
and you make us stewards of your world;
give us generous hearts,
make us cheerful givers,
filled with desire to see the dawning of the Kingdom
of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ...

Response after the reading(s)

As for Sunday 1

Readings and sermon notes

During the period between Advent Sunday and 2nd February, and between Ash Wednesday and Trinity, the readings of the day should normally be used, if the service is the main Sunday Eucharist. At other times, these suggested readings, or other appropriate passages of Scripture may be used.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 – *The first fruits*

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 – *The blessings of the Lord*

Psalm 126 – *The seed for sowing*

1 Cor 16:1-4 – *The collections for the saints*

2 Cor 8:1-9 – *poverty and generosity*

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 – *The one who sows bountifully will reap
bountifully*

Galatians 6:5-10 – *we reap that which we sow*

1 Timothy 6:6-10 – *The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil*

Luke 12:16-30 – *Storing up treasures*

Matthew 5:21-24 – *Offering your gift at the altar*

Sermon notes are provided elsewhere in this resource pack

Intercessions

NPW F45 as printed in the resources for Sunday 1

In addition, the following prayer might be added within an existing set of intercessions, or incorporated into a more informal period of prayer:

Generous God,
we pray for your wisdom and guidance
in the ordering of our financial affairs.

We pray for those who have responsibility in the world of finance,
for all who oversee budgets, and for ourselves as we seek to act
justly in using the money which we have.

Bless our offerings to your world and your church,
make us generous givers,
as we make decisions about how to use the gifts
which you give to us.

[Lord, in your mercy... (Or similar response)]

Introduction to the Peace

Peacemakers who sow in peace
raise a harvest of righteousness.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

NPW H38

Prayer at the preparation of the Table

As for Sunday 1

Suggested Proper Preface

And now we give you thanks
because he was born in the poverty of a stable,
to make known the riches of your kingdom. *NPW G100*

And now we give you thanks
because he is the true vine, your chosen one,
in whom we are joined to bear fruit in plenty. *NPW G126*

And now we give you thanks
because he broke bread with those whom others scorned
and when the multitude were hungry
he fed them abundantly. *NPW G139*

Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

Being made whole by the generous love of Christ,
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray/
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Blessing

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;
and the blessing ... *NPW J69*

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;
and the blessing ... *NPW J110 (edited)*

¶ Sample Order for Service 2

God gives to us: A Response to the Generosity of God

Gathering to Worship God

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God,
for it is he who gives you power to get wealth *Deut 8:11,18*

Words of welcome and introduction may follow.

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 songs may be sung.

Silence is kept and then the following Collect is said.

God, from whom all good things come,
you shower us with blessings
and you make us stewards of your world;
give us generous hearts, make us cheerful givers,
filled with desire to see the dawning of the Kingdom
of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Saying Sorry to God

Confession

When you have eaten your fill
and have built fine houses and live in them
when your silver and gold is multiplied,
and all that you have is multiplied,
take care that you do not forget God,
for it is he who gives you power to get wealth.

We confess our sins:

after Deut 8

We keep a moment of quiet for reflection

We confess to you
our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you
our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you
our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

TS p624 B3

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

NPW B80

Praise

These words may be said

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

A hymn or song(s) may be sung.

Hearing and responding to the Word of God

Readings

Readings may be selected from the options in the resource section

A psalm, hymn or songs may be sung between readings or before or after the Response.

After each reading the following response is used

For the gift of the Word of life
Thanks be to God

Response

This may include a sermon or talk, discussion and activities for different age groups.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers are led by a member of the church family. They may follow this pattern, or be composed for the occasion.

We pray for God's grace.

Lord, receive our praise

and hear our prayer.

Lord God, through your grace we are your people:
through your Son you have redeemed us;
in your Spirit you have made us as your own.

We pray for... (*new Christians, the Church*)
 Make our hearts respond to your love.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

We pray for... (*the world, society, the local community*)
 Make our lives bear witness to your glory in the world.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

We pray for... (*people in need, Christian service*)
 Make our wills eager to obey, and our hands ready to heal.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

We give thanks for...
 Make our voices one with all your people
 in heaven and on earth.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

NPW F45

Generous God,
 we pray for your wisdom and guidance
 in the ordering of our financial affairs.

We pray for those who have responsibility in the world of finance,
 for all who oversee budgets, and for ourselves as we seek to act
 justly in using the money which we have.

Bless our offerings to your world and your church,
 make us generous givers,
 as we make decisions about how to use the gifts
 which you give to us.
 Lord, receive our praise
and hear our prayer.

Created in God's image, and by his love,
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.**

Going out to serve God

A hymn or song(s) may be sung.

All things come from you, O God,
and of your own do we give you

This blessing may be used

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;
and the blessing ... NPW J110 (edited)

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

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¶ Service 3 – Giving Thanks

The emphasis in this act of worship is on thanksgiving for the results of the introduction of the PGS in your community. It is a celebration of the life of the church in your locality, and the response the people of God have made to the call upon their lives to be sacrificial givers. This service might appropriately take place immediately before a parish party, or at the very least it ought to have a festival atmosphere.

Because it is envisaged that this service will be rather more ‘stand alone’ than the preceding two, rather than provide a set of resources and then a sample order of service, in this section a rather more worked out order is provided, followed by notes on how to incorporate these resources into a Eucharist. Worship leaders should feel free to pick and choose from these resources as appropriate, taking care to maintain the balance between Word, Praise, Prayer and Response.

Sample Order of Service: page 39

¶ Sample Order for Service 3 Giving Thanks

Gathering

God is good
all the time.

All the time
God is good.

NPW A26

Hymn

Suggestion: God is here; as we his people, meet to offer praise and prayer, or some other hymn or song which focuses on the gifts of God to us, and our response to them.

We sit

Liturgy of the Word

A Psalm

Suggestions: Psalms 121, 126, or 150,

Old Testament Reading

Suggested Reading: I Chronicles 29 v 6 –13

Silence

New Testament Reading

Suggested Reading: Hebrews 11: 8-16

*If a Gospel reading is required (for example if this service is Eucharistic),
Suggestion: Matthew 10:5-8, or Matthew 14:13-21*

Silence

Confession

God lavishes upon us all the blessings of his kingdom,
and yet we fail to recognise his goodness,
or to make it known in our lives.
in sorrow for our sins, we make our confession to our Lord

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

NPW B37

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NPW B80 ⁴⁰

A Hymn

*Suggestions: Give us the wings of faith to rise within the veil, and see
God forgive my sin in Jesu's name
Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair*

Sermon

We stand

The Creed

The Apostles' Creed, another Creed or affirmation of faith

Thanksgiving

We remain standing as symbols of our response to God's call upon our lives are presented. (These may be the giving forms which people have completed, or another token which represents the commitments made. They may be brought to the Altar table, or laid at the foot of a prominent cross)

Let us give thanks to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
**who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing.**

Before the world was made, God chose us in Christ,
that we might be holy and blameless before him.

Let us praise God for the glory of his grace,
for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son.

To Father, Son and Holy Spirit
**give praise and dominion, honour and might,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

NPW G22

Prayer of dedication

God our Father
receive these gifts:
our response to your love and generosity.
Take us and bless us that,
following in the footsteps of our forebears
we may proclaim the coming of your kingdom
grow in the way of Christ,
and reveal your love in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Glory to the Father, the God of love,
who created us;
who continually preserves and sustains us;
who has loved us with an everlasting love,
and has given us the light of the knowledge of his glory
in the face of Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God for ever.

Glory to Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who, though he was rich,
yet for our sake became poor,
and was tested in every way as we are,
yet without sin;
who proclaimed the good news of the kingdom,
and was obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross;
who was raised from the dead and is alive for ever,
and has opened the kingdom of heaven
to all who trust in him;
who is seated at God's right hand in glory,
and will come to be our judge.

Blessed be God for ever.

Glory to the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
by whom we are born into the family of God,
and made members of the body of Christ;
whose witness confirms us;
whose wisdom teaches us;
whose power enables us:
who will do for us more than we can ask or think.

Blessed be God for ever.

Parish of Longlevens

Commitment

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and,
whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

With the help of God, I will.

CW p359

Hymn

*Suggestions: Teach me, my God and King, in all things thee to see
Take my life and let it be
I the Lord of sea and sky*

Or some other hymn or song which refers to our response to God's love

The Prayers

We sit or kneel

We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us into the family of those
who are the children of God.
May our love for our brothers and sisters
be strengthened by your grace.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be a temple
where the Holy Spirit can dwell.
Give us clean hands and pure hearts,
so that our lives will reflect your holiness.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be a light to the world,
so that those in darkness come to you.
May our lives shine
as a witness to the saving grace you have given for all.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be members of your body,
so that when one suffers, all suffer together.
We ask for your comfort and healing power
to bring hope to those in distress.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
in your mercy, hear us.

You have called us to be the Bride,
where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom.
Prepare us for the wedding feast,
where we will be united with you for ever.
Jesus, Lord of the Church,
hear our prayer,
**and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.**

Amen.

NPW F65

The Lord's Prayer is said

The Dismissal

Lord Jesus Christ,
you emptied yourself,
taking the form of a servant.

**Through your love,
make us servants of one another.**

Lord Jesus Christ,
for our sake you became poor.

May our lives and gifts enrich the life of your world.

NPW I3

A Hymn

*Suggestion: Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
 Great is thy faithfulness
 In Christ alone my hope is found*

Or another hymn or song which relates to our commitment to Christ

The Blessing

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,
Raise and strengthen you,
That you may transform the world;
And the blessing...

The Service in the Context of Holy Communion

If this service is Eucharistic, the Confession, Prayers and Blessing can be used as set, in the appropriate position in the service.

The Thanksgiving, Prayer of Dedication, and the Commitment may appropriately be inserted either at the Offertory, just before the Table is laid, or after the Communion, replacing the Post-Communion prayers.

Introductions to the Peace, and Proper Prefaces may be selected from the choices provided for Service I if wished. Alternatively, the short prefaces for Easter in Common Worship: Times and Seasons are appropriate for a service of celebration, and so is some of the material provided for the Dedication Festival of a Church in the same volume