

Love

THE GATHERING PRAYER

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this sacred circle through which all creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever.

THE GATHERING PSALM OF PRAISE

Psalm 85:4-7

- ⁴ Restore us then, O God our Saviour; *
let your anger depart from us.
- ⁵ Will you be displeased with us for ever? *
will you prolong your anger from age to age?
- ⁶ Will you not give us life again, *
that your people may rejoice in you?
- ⁷ Show us your mercy, O Lord, *
and grant us your salvation.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 16: 15-18

REFLECTION AND REPONSE TO THE GOSPEL

Reflect and Respond to the Gospel:

1. What word(s), idea(s), or sentence(s) stand out for you in the Gospel?
2. What is Jesus (the Gospel) saying to you?
3. What is Jesus (the Gospel) calling you to do?



APOSTLE'S CREED

Officiant and People together:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER

The Prayer of Saint Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.
Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.
Where there is discord, let me bring union.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.
O Master, let me not seek as much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that one receives,
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,
it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,
it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life." **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Lord God, you have taught us that anything we do without love is worth nothing, for whoever lives without love is counted dead before you; send your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**—*NZPB p.624c*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen**

BLESSING

May the God of peace enable us to do his will in every kind of goodness, working in us what pleases him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. **Amen**

or *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. **Amen**