**The Diocese of Newcastle Mothers’ Union**

**Transformation - Now !**

**Holy Communion**

***The Gathering***

**Welcome and Greeting**

Welcome to our Mothers’ Union Service. We gather in gratitude for God’s blessings over the last year and to look ahead with fresh vision: to ask God to transform us personally and spiritually; to transform Mothers’ Union, and the churches and communities in which we live.

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*A hymn may be sung. A bidding prayer may be offered.*

**Prayers of Penitence** *(sit or kneel)*

We ask God to forgive us and transform us in heart and mind...

Merciful 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.**  *© John Birch*

*This or an alternative authorised absolution is given*

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.

*All*    **Amen.**

**The Collect for the Day**

##### ***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Scripture:** *A short passage from the* ***OT*** *or* ***NT*** *may be read.*

**The Gospel** *(stand)*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*A short reflection may be given*

**Prayers of Intercession** *(these or alternative prayers are said)*

Let us pray for the transformation of attitudes and lives to bring good…

In a world of change and hope, of fear and adventure:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

In the common wealth of all nations, in peace and in war:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come**

In the work of the Mothers’ Union world-wide….

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

In our communities, among our friends and in our homes:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

In our times of joy and our days of sorrow:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

In our strengths and triumphs, in our weakness and at our death:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

In the communion of saints and on the day of Christ’s coming:...

We pray: **Your kingdom come.**

Merciful Father, **receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

**The Peace**

Jesus said: ‘My peace I give to you; my peace I leave with you.’

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, be with you.

*All*    **and also with you.**

*A sign of peace may be shared in preparation for holy communion.*

**Preparation of the Table** *(during which a hymn may be sung)* **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

**The Eucharistic Prayer (H)**

The Lord is here.

*All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;

in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away, you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

*All* **You embraced us as your children**

**and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

*All* **He opened his arms of love upon the cross**

**and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,

at supper with his friends

he took bread, and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

*All* **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,

he gave you thanks, and said:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;

do this in remembrance of me.

*All* **Father, we do this in remembrance of him:**

**his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,

send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine

may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

*All* **As we eat and drink these holy gifts**

**make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world

we offer you this sacrifice of praise

and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us pray as our Saviour has taught us (*Sit or kneel)*

*All* **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,**

**because we all share in one bread.**

*All*  **Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God’s holy gifts for God’s holy people.

*All* **Jesus Christ is holy,**

**Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

*The communicant replies* **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

*All* **Father of all,**

**we give you thanks and praise,**

**that when we were still far off**

**you met us in your Son and brought us home.**

**Dying and living, he declared your love,**

**gave us grace,**

**and opened the gate of glory.**

**May we who share Christ’s body live his risen life;**

**we who drink his cup bring life to others;**

**we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,**

**so we and all your children shall be free,**

**and the whole earth live to praise your name;**

**through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

*A hymn may be sung*

***The Dismissal***

*Notices may be given*

**Mothers Union Prayer:**

*All:* **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.**

**Blessing**

*This or an alternative blessing is given …*

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,

may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,

may the gifts of the Spirit equip you

to serve and worship God

...and the blessing of God Almighty,

The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always.

*All*    **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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**With God, nothing is impossible: Transformation – Now !**

A Transformation Prayer

In a world where many are poor

without the basics of life;

let me serve by sharing my wealth.

In a world with much discrimination

against gender, colour and creed;

let me serve by speaking up for all.

In a world at risk of destruction,

through the damage your people have done;

let me serve by changing how I live.

In a world where there is turmoil,

with fighting, war and fear;

let me serve by praying for peace and harmony. Amen.

*Jackie Moore, Newcastle.*

*MU Platinum Prayer Book 2022*

This order of service, prepared for Newcastle MU in 2022, is available for MU branches to use in their own deaneries and parishes. MU blue vestments and stainless steel communion vessels are also available. Contact the Chaplain, Revd Anne Marr.

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