



LITURGY FOR CELEBRATING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY

CHILDREN ARE A BLESSING AND A
GIFT FROM THE LORD
PSALM 127:3

“I BELIEVE IN A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE CHURCH, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN. I GREW UP BEING TOLD THAT CHILDREN ARE TO BE SEEN AND NOT HEARD AND THIS STATEMENT IS DAMAGING TO OUR CHILDREN. OUR CHURCHES SHOULD CREATE OPPORTUNITIES TO MINISTER TO AND WITH OUR CHILDREN AND THIS LITURGY IS FOR SOME THE BEGINNING FOR OTHERS IT WILL BE ANOTHER ADDED RESOURCE. MAY OUR CHILDREN FIND THE CHURCH AS A SANCTUARY AND A HAPPY PLACE, MAY WE INCLUDE, EMPOWER AND LOVE OUR CHILDREN.”

THE RIGHT REVD DR VICENTIA KGABE | BISHOP OF LESOTHO

CHILDREN`S MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT

- Our mission is to teach children that Jesus is the only way, truth and life. Training them in the way they should go so when they are old they will not depart.

On this very special day, let us celebrate the innocence and purity of our kids. Let them feel precious in every way because they are our future. ~ Nthabeleng Lesitsi - PYC Children's Ministry Officer

Happy children's day!

PROCESSION

Children's ministries

Processional hymn:

WELCOME

Celebrant: we gather to worship God who created each and every child in God's image. We gather in the name of Christ, who welcomed and blessed the children. We gather empowered by the Holy Spirit, who moves in and among us, as we work for justice. Come let us worship God.

Priest: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

COLLECT OF PURITY

Synaxis: Let us pray

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open, all desires know and from whom no secrets are hid: 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.

Synaxis: Let us confess our sins- we bring before God all the things we have said, thought and done that was wrong.

All: Almighty God, we are truly sorry and we ask you to forgive us and help us to do always what is right

ABSOLUTION

Presider: God of love, you are always ready to forgive. We thank you for your forgiveness, in the name of God the Father, God and the Son and God in the Holy Spirit. Amen

Chorus: This little light of mine

Presider: For young people

Father of everlasting compassion you see your children growing up in an uncertain world. Show them the path of life enable them to triumph over failure and frustrations to hold fast their faith in your creation, through Christ our Lord.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First reading: Genesis 32: 22-31

Psalm 23 - By the children

The lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

He leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley, I will fear no evil,

For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me

All the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen

Second reading: Romans 9: 1-5

Gradual chorus

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14: 13-21

Homily

CHILDREN'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father

I believe in Jesus, God's Son

I believe in the Holy Spirit

Father, Son and the Holy Spirit

We Praise you!

PRAYERS

For Sunday school teachers

Dear Lord, you sent Jesus to be our greatest teacher as we seek the kingdom of heaven. Bless us to be humble like Jesus and to seek diligently your face through your Word to gain knowledge and insight in order to teach the children. May our love for you be evident as we teach and give us the opportunity to lead young hearts to the saving knowledge of your Son, Jesus.

For children

Dear Lord Jesus. Thank you so much for all the precious children in this world. We know they mean so much to you. We pray you would help us do all we can to protect and give them the start in life they deserve. Lord we bring to you all of the wonderful work being done to release children from poverty, and we pray that you would bless every pair of hands that works for you. Increase and bless their efforts in Jesus name.

For parents and guardians

Dear Lord! Fill our parents with blessings; enrich their souls with your holy grace; fill them with wisdom and impart it to their children. May they ever walk in the way of your commandments, and may their children be their joy on earth and their crown of glory in heaven.

Amen!

PEACE

Synaxis: Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: Peace be with you.

THE OFFERTORY:

Offertory choruses

PRAYER FOR PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Faithful father, thank you for the gifts of eternal life. Everything we have is a gift from you. We bring our offerings to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen!

EUCCHARIST PRAYER

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

Celebrant: Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

All: We give thanks and praise for all that God has done for us

Celebrant: God the Father created the Heavens, the earth and everything in them: created us in his own image

All: Let us give Him thanks and praise

Celebrant: Christ our Lord became human like us and died to save us.

All: Let us give Him thanks and praise

Celebrant: God sent the Holy Spirit to gather us together as the people of God.

All: Let us give Him thanks and praise

Celebrant: So come, let us join together to worship this God who loves us

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood.

Celebrant: We praise you that before he suffered and died, our saviour gave us this holy meal to share and told us to continue it until he comes again.

All: Why do we eat bread together at this table?

Celebrant: On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying; “take, eat.....this in remembrance of me.”

All: What do we remember at this table?

Celebrant: We remember the Father’s gracious love for us, Christ’s death and resurrection for us and the spirits tender care for us. So let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again.

Celebrant: In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup.

We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit.

Lord, remember your church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with our bishop, and all the departed into the light of your presence.

Have mercy on us all; make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the virgin mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages.

May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all the glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our father in heaven hallowed be your Name

Your kingdom come

Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us daily bread. Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us, save us from time of trial

And deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen!

Celebrant: Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. In eating and drinking together may we be made one with Christ and one another.

All: Amen!

The breaking of the bread

Celebrant: The bread of which we break is it not a sharing of the body of Christ?

All: We who are many, are one body for we all partake of the one bread.

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us peace

The communion

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord

Trusting in our own righteousness but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table

But you are the same Lords whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood that we may evermore dwell in Him and he in us.

Celebrant: Draw near and receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you. Feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION CHORUSES

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

Celebrant: Eternal God, comfort of the hurt and healer of the broken you have fed us at the table of life and hope. Teach us the way of gentleness and peace, and make us the ministers of your compassion; that all the world may acknowledge the reign of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

All: Father Almighty, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Prayer for Africa

God bless Africa

Protect our Children

Transform our leaders

Heal our communities

Restore our dignity

And give us peace

For Jesus Christ's sake

Amen!

BLESSINGS

Go forth knowing that you are a precious child of God. Go forth to cherish every child of God. Go forth to protect and seek justice for children, and the communion of the spirit whom Jesus called the Advocate, be with and every child of God, this day forth and forever more. Amen!

RECESSION CHORUS

He's got the whole in his hands/ Morena utlwa dithapelo tsa bana
haba bua le wena

HAVE AN AWESOME AND BLESSED WEEK AHEAD!

The Provincial Youth Council acknowledges the following people for their involvement in drafting the liturgy:

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-Rev'd Canon Chaplain Mohale – Christ the king Diocese

- Motheo TVET students

Thank you so much for your participation!