

Agape for Kingdom Season

Prepare your space - you will need something to eat and drink-you may also like to light a candle.

After everyone is muted there will be a moment of quiet.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

OPENING RESPONSES

Lord, speak to us

that we may hear your word.

Move among us

that we may behold your glory.

Receive our prayers

that we may learn to trust you. Amen

Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, you everlasting doors;

and the King of glory shall come in.

'Who is this King of glory?'

'The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.'

CONFESSION

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;
its evil distortions and hatreds.

Let us confess our share in what is wrong,
and our failure to seek and establish that peace
which God wills for all his children.

Lord God,

we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore us to the joy of your salvation,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ABSOLUTION-

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son
and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT –

READINGS -after each reading

This is word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Alleluia.

SERMON.

Music for reflection

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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
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.**

INTERCESSIONS

Lord in your Mercy

Hear our prayer

Merciful Father:

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

THE PEACE

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

(We will be unmuted to share the peace of Christ with each other so please wave and join in)

THE AGAPE MEAL OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, you provide enough for everyone: this earth is fertile, fruitful, and abundant, but we are sometimes greedy, wasteful, and selfish.

Many go hungry despite our plenty, many are left outside while we enjoy a feast. But on the hillside, in the wilderness, with five thousand and more hungry people, Jesus took the bread that they had, broke it and gave thanks to you. He shared the bread, and the fish so that no one should be left out, and they all ate and were satisfied.

Your kingdom come your will be done

Hurting God, you hurt with our pains, you weep with our tears; when you see how we struggle and suffer. You long for our peace, yet we so often make war. You long for our healing and wholeness, yet we so often turn away from you.

But at a wedding in Cana when the wine ran out, Jesus asked them to fill the empty jars with water, and by your grace, water became wine, sadness was turned to joy, and all were able to share in the best wine of all.

Your kingdom come your will be done

you long for us to live in the ways of your kingdom, in a world at peace, a people made one, a feast for all; where food and drink are shared with companions on the road, and all are caught up together in the Kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Your kingdom come your will be done

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God we thank you, for your abundant love in creation, your compassionate, healing touch in our hurting, your inspiration for our venturing. Thank you for bread, and wine to share. Give us grace to follow in the footsteps of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**Lord, remember us in your kingdom,
as we pray in the words you gave us.
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.**

WASHING OF HANDS

Wash your hands or use sanitiser gel. You may wish to use this prayer:

Wash me, O Lord, and cleanse me from my sin."

THE FOOD AND DRINK ARE CONSUMMED

As we eat and drink may our souls be refreshed.

(Music will be played whilst we eat)

PRAYER AFTER AGAPE

God of our salvation, you have restored us to life, brought us back again into your love.
Continue to heal us, so we live in the power of your Spirit, to your praise and glory.
With gratefulness for all that we have been blessed with,
let us look ahead to our lives beyond this week and this place,
With gratefulness to each other for all that we have shared.
With thankfulness to God let us now begin to look outwards
and ahead to our lives beyond this week and this place.
That we may reflect Gods love in this world.

CLOSING RESPONSES and PRAYER

O God of life, of all life and of each life,
We lay our lives before you;
We give our lives to you.
From whom nothing in us is hidden.
You are before us, God, you are behind.
You are around us, God, you are within.
O God of life, O generous Spirit,
Renew us with your life today, tomorrow, and always. Amen

Loving God,
you have taught us that the power of the heart
is greater than the power of wealth and might.
Hear us as we pray for the fulfilment of your reign.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our King;
to him be glory and power for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

God the Father, who has given to his Son the name above every name,
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.
God the Son, who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.
God the Holy Spirit, who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,
make you faithful servants of Christ our King. And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you now and always.
Amen.

We will 'un-mute' now

THE DISMISSAL

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