

Liturgical material with a global mission emphasis

The following liturgical material comes from *The Ascension Rite 1998* used by the United College of the Ascension, Birmingham for their weekday Eucharists. It is reproduced on this website with their permission.

Greeting

We come to worship the one who is Holy.

Glory and honour and power are yours, O God.

We come to worship the one who is Mystery.

Glory and honour and power are yours, O God.

We come to worship the one who is Love.

Glory and honour and power are yours, O God.

In the name of the Creator who gathers us.

Let God's name be praised.

In the name of Jesus who comes as one of us.

Let God's name be praised.

In the name of the Spirit who renews us.

Let God's name be praised!

Confession

Let us acknowledge our need for God's liberating presence

Merciful God, break the chains that keep us in bondage;

Break the chains that cause us to hurt others;

Break the chains on our hearts that stop us from caring.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

When we forget what it means to be your people.

Lord have mercy.

When we find it easier to close our ears to the cries of those in need.

Christ have mercy.

When we take for granted the Gospel message
and lose our passion to share the good news.

Lord have mercy.

Intercessions

Across the barriers that divide people from each other.

Reconcile us O Christ by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide Christians.

Reconcile us O Christ by your cross.

Across the barriers that divide people.

Reconcile us O Christ by your cross.

Enable us to recognise and remove the causes of division within our own lives.

Into your hands O Lord we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Preparation

What do we bring to Christ's table?

**We bring bread,
made from many people's work,
from an unjust world, where some have plenty
and most go hungry.**

At this table all are fed and no one is turned away.

Thanks be to God.

What do we bring to Christ's table?

**We bring wine, made from many people's work,
from an unjust world, where some live in luxury
and most struggle to survive.**

At this table all share the cup of pain and celebration.

Thanks be to God.

Material to introduce the Eucharistic Prayer

1 based on a Kenyan Eucharistic prayer

From a wandering nomad,

you created a new community;

for a burdened people,

you raised up those who could inspire;

when your people rebelled,

you sent your prophets.

we praise you for sending your son, christ jesus,

who comes in your name.

He is the word that brings salvation.

His is the hand you stretch out to sinners.

His is the way that leads to peace.

With the Spirit as our guide,

you lead us into truth, you quench hatred with mercy,

you transform our strife and change our hearts.

2 written by Claudius Matsikiti, Zimbabwe

Almighty God, Creator of the earth and all that is in it.

You are the God of our ancestors,

those living and those in the spiritual world.

We praise and honour you for your love and care,
for all the blessings in life and for your protection.
It is you who clothe the world every season
and care for every living creature.
But we went astray and left your ways.
You closed down the sky and did not give us rains.
But then you offered you mercy, and opened up the sky.
You sent Jesus as our great High Priest;
and a way back was made possible!
In him, and through your Spirit, you rained down on us your love,
and from the dry earth new life blossomed again.

Prayer Following Communion

Let us pray together:

**We thank you for this meal,
shared in the Spirit with Jesus your Son.
May we be living loaves, shaped by the hands of God, for others.
May our lives be as wine poured out,
expressing God's abundant loving.
Amen**

For courage and strength renewed;
we thank you.
For forgiveness and healing and relationships restored;
we praise you.
For new insights, vision and hope received;
**we offer you our lives.
Amen**

Benediction

Beyond the frontiers of language, race or nation
God unite us.
Of our ignorance, and prejudice
Jesus reveal to us.
Beyond the barriers we erect
Spirit take us! Amen