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**Week 2:**

**Fair Shares**

**2 Corinthians 8:10-15**

# A picture containing shape Description automatically generatedWeek 2: Fair Shares

This week’s reading: 2 Corinthians 8:10-15

### Other suggested reading:

Hebrews 13:6

Exodus 16:9-21

### Focus Verse:

“For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to

what one does not have.”

*2 Corinthians 8:12*

## Liturgical Service Plan

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Faithful One, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives**

**For the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Coming together as God’s family, with confidence let us ask the Father’s forgiveness for our failure to respond fully to his grace, for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

A time of SILENCE - for reflection

Lord, when we hold on to your grace rather than share it;

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, for our lack of appreciation of all you have done;

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, for the inequality of our sharing;

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

## Collect

Heavenly Father, by your Spirit you work in us both the desire and the strength to fulfil your purpose in our lives: grant us the grace of generous hearts and open hands that our living and our giving may be acceptable in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## A Song of the New Creation

**I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King.

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,

Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

A picture containing shape

Description automatically generatedI will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,

'The people whom I formed for myself, that they might declare my praise.'

**I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.**

From Isaiah 43

***‘Gloria ...’***

**Praise**

Blessed is the Lord

**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**and in our song we will praise our God.**

## Prayer of Dedication

**Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of your holy word.**

**May it be a lantern to our feet, a light to our paths, and a strength to our lives.**

**Take us and use us to love and serve in the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of your Son,**

**Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## A Prayer for Giving in Grace

**Heavenly Father, give grace to us, the living stones who form your Church, to reflect prayerfully at this special time on our love for you and our neighbour.**

**Make us mindful of the many gifts you bestow upon us.**

**We ask that your Holy Spirit will inspire and direct us in our choice of giving, remembering that we are only giving back that which is truly yours.**

**Strengthen us, Lord, to meet this challenge according to your will.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord who has given all that we might live.**

**Amen.**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Loving God, giver of all that is, we pray to you in faith with thanksgiving.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for ourselves and for each other, for our families and loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all who care for us.

Give us grace to see Christ in others and to love others as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We rejoice in your steadfast love offered to all through Jesus Christ.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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Bless all who seek to bring your help to them.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for all your gifts to us, for the world and all that is in it.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us and all your people to share every sort of wealth.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to act with justice so that there may be peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your Church, for all who serve Christ and his kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen us for our work and witness in the world.

Grant us wholehearted generosity, so we may live in liberty and reflect your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who have died, for those who have gone before us in the faith, and

those whose faith is known to you alone. Grant us, with them, entry into your heavenly kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Silent prayer*

Generous and merciful God, loving and giving God, you look with compassion on all who turn to you:

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

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Offering

*Consider all that God has done for you, especially as you see this in Jesus. ‘Count your blessings’ and respond with appropriate generosity from your material wealth.*

## Prayer for the Offerings

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have released this due proportion of our wealth, fruit of our labours, symbol of our commitment. It will become a tool to be used for your glory. **Blessed be God for ever. Amen.**

## Blessing

May God, the Giver of all good gifts, pour out upon you his richest blessing that you may always have all that you need and that from his gracious abundance you might know the joy of generosity.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

This service plan was developed by *Giving In Grace*, a comprehensive resource from the Diocese of Liverpool, designed to help develop a generous church culture, see more here at www.givingingrace.org

