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**Week 3:**

**Our Administration of Grace**

**2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5**

# A picture containing shape  Description automatically generatedWeek 3: Our Administration of Grace

This week’s reading:2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5

### Other suggested reading:

Hebrews 13:5

Malachi 3:8-16

## 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, you pour out constantly upon us the fullness of your blessings; forgive the shallowness of our response.

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you long for your grace to flow through us; forgive our faded enthusiasm.

**Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, your generosity is timeless; forgive our procrastination.

**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

Loving Father, you have called us to be your people, poured out your goodness on us, and called us to be stewards of all that you have entrusted to us; give us grace to enjoy all your gifts to us, and to handle them with integrity because they come from you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## General Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness to us and to all people.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be truly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

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

**Reshape us, good Lord, until in generosity, in faith, and in the expectation that the best**

**is yet to come, we are truly Christ-like.**

**Make us passionate followers of Jesus, rather than passive supporters.**

**Make our churches places of radical discipleship and signposts to heaven, then, in us,**

**through us, and if need be despite us, let your kingdom come.**

**Amen.**

*A Prayer from the Iona Community*

## 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 for grace and strength to live as those accountable before God, saying

Lord, in your mercy, **make us faithful stewards of your goodness.**

We pray for the leaders of nations, for honesty, integrity, justice and compassion in national and international politics and especially in the area of debt.

Lord, in your mercy, **make us faithful stewards of your goodness.**

We pray for the church in all the world. May all you have called to leadership have renewed passion for the Gospel, eagerness for the health of the Church, and accountability in all their ways, that they may reflect the glory of Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **make us faithful stewards of your goodness**

We pray for the sick and the sorrowing and all who need your healing touch. For the Church’s ministry of healing and caring. Lord, may we give realistically so that your Church may minister effectively.

Lord, in your mercy, **make us faithful stewards of your goodness.**

Father, we bless you for all who have gone before us in the faith of Christ, and especially we remember...

Lord, in your mercy, **make us faithful stewards of your goodness.**

*Silent prayer*



Merciful Father, **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; caught up in the overflow of your grace, we offer you these gifts, symbols of our lives, freely given back to you.

**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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. 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 at www.givingingrace.org

