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# Week 3: The Way of the Cross

Mark 8:31-38

# A picture containing text  Description automatically generatedWeek 3: The Way of the Cross

This week’s reading:Mark 8:31-38

## Penitence

Lord your love overwhelms us

and sweeps away our wrong doing.

**Almighty God, we come before you in penitence,**

**acknowledging that there are times when we have failed to live as obedient disciples.**

**We have put ourselves in the pathway of sin,**

**and done those things which we ought not to have done.**

**We have not done the things that you have called us to do;**

**we have withheld that which is truly yours**

**and not confessed the name of your Son Jesus Christ.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been**

**and restore in us the image of your Son. Amen.**

## Collect

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

you have called us to be the Body of Christ;

grant that by the power at work within each of us

we may exercise the ministry

you have given according to the gifts

you have bestowed upon your people.

May we may be faithful and bold,

living out our lives to the glory of your Son. **Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

In faith we pray to the living God.

That this day may be holy and in all we do we may be conscious of your presence.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That those who lead our churches may be faithful stewards of your eternal mysteries.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That we, your people, may faithfully exercise the gifts you have given us.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That we may acknowledge that all we have comes from you and be freed from materialism.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That our sisters and brothers who face persecution may be strengthened by you this day.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That all may respond to your call for truth and justice throughout the world.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That you will give hope to all who are lonely, oppressed, ill or fearful of what lies ahead.

**We pray to you, living God.**

That you will comfort those who mourn.

**Generous God of love and mercy, hear our prayer which we offer and keep us faithful**

**in the eternal fellowship of all your saints. Amen.**

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## A picture containing text  Description automatically generatedPeace

God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in Christ and through him to

reconcile to himself all things on earth or in heaven, making peace through his

blood, shed on the cross. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

## Offertory

Generous God,

creator, redeemer, sustainer,

at your table we present this money,

symbol of the work you have given us to do;

use it, use us, in the service of the world

to the glory of your name.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have our money to offer. Fruit of our labours, symbol of our commitment, it will become a tool to be used for your glory.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you.

As we consider how we respond to your love

grant that we may be generous,

faithful and responsible stewards

of all that you have entrusted to us. **Amen.**

## Blessing

MayGod the Father who gives life to the world grant you grace to be faithful in the service of his Kingdom. **Amen.**

May God the Son who walked the way of obedience, suffering and death grant you grace to live his life and proclaim his glory. **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit who strengthens the people of God grant you grace to hold lightly and give generously of all that has been entrusted to you in this world. **Amen.**

And the blessing….

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

