

L2: That we may be able to face and resolve the difficult issues which still divide us.

A: We ask you, O Lord.

L1: For common witness in Christ which we have given in times of crisis, for justice, peace and humanitarian aid.

A: We thank you, O Lord.

L2: That prayer in common may become a regular part of the life of our local congregations.

A: We ask you, O Lord.

L1: For progress in interreligious dialogue throughout the world.

A: We thank you, O Lord.

L2: For the immense progress made by our churches in their common realization of Gods word as the source of revelation, and for the progress already achieved towards a common celebration of the eucharist.

A: We thank you, O Lord, and we ask you to make us truly one.

Sending Forth

A: Open our eyes to your presence.
Open our ears to your call.
Open our hearts to your love.
May we open our arms to others.
May we open our hearts to strangers.
May we open our doors to callers.
That we may be open to you, Lord,
Open this day and for evermore.



An Ecumenical Celebration of the Word

Where two or more are gathered in my name...

(Matthew 18:15-22)

Litany of the Presence of Christ

L: Jesus, Risen Lord -

A: We gather in your name.

L: Jesus, Good Shepherd -

A: We gather in your name.

L: Jesus, Word of life -

A: We gather in your name.

L: Jesus, friend of the poor -

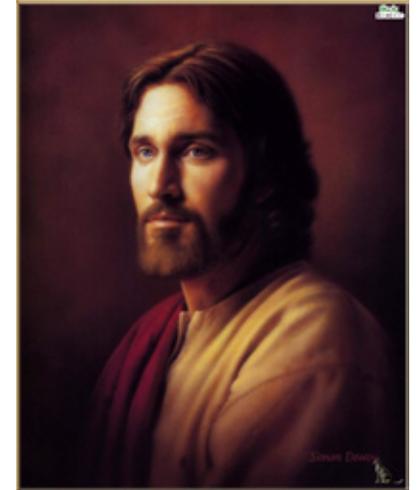
A: We gather in your name.

L: Jesus, source of all forgiveness -

A: We gather in your name.

L: Jesus, Prince of peace -

A: We gather in your name.



A: Lord Jesus Christ, you call us together in faith and love.
Breathe again the new life of your Holy Spirit upon us,
that we may hear your holy word, pray in your name,
seek unity among Christians, and live more fully the faith we profess. All
glory and honor be yours, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, forever and
ever. Amen.

Hymn (“Word of God” by Bernadette Farrell)

Word of God renew your people
make us now your living sign.
Recreate us for your purpose
in this place and in this time.

Word of hope and word of healing,
make us now...

Word of peace and word of justice...

With your cross of love upon us...

To the water lead your people...

Risen Saviour, with us always...

Holy Spirit, raise your people.

(Also suitable: "Alleluia! Raise the Gospel" by Farrell.)

Proclamation of the Word of God

Revelation 22: 1-5.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

Word of the Lord.

Act of Repentance

L: There are many ways to be unfaithful to what we have become through baptism, to our commitment and our obedience to God. We offer him now our prayers of repentance.



1: We confess to you, living God, our failure to live as brothers and sisters, and as your children. We confess to you, loving God, that we have not loved you as you have loved us.

Lord have mercy.

2: We confess to you, gracious God, that we have doubted your word and failed to obey its teaching. We confess to you, merciful God, our desire to own you and contain you within our doctrines and theologies. We confess to you, almighty God, that we do not acknowledge you as Lord of all the earth. Forgive us and redeem us for we have not allowed your presence to shine among us.

Lord have mercy.

3: We confess there are many ways in which we have failed in our commitment and obedience to our fellow men and women. We confess to one another our shallow pride and self sufficiency. We confess that we have failed to see the risen Christ in the stranger in our midst. We confess to one another our desire for an easy life, a comfortable life, a life which makes no demands upon us.

Lord have mercy.

L: What we have confessed with our lips let us make real in our lives. By sharing in the sign of peace we renew our commitment to a new way of life.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

L1: Remembering God's gifts we pray together:

Lord of heaven and earth, we gather in the name of Jesus and listen to your Holy Spirit, calling us to unity in Christ.

A: We thank you, O Lord.

L2: May we be more attentive to your inspiration and more ready to listen to one another.

A: We ask you, O Lord.

L1: For the agreements reached on matters of theology and pastoral life.

A: We thank you, O Lord.

