

A Corporate Service of Penitence

The Gathering

At the entrance of the ministers, a hymn may be sung.

The Greeting

The president greets the people using these or other suitable words

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All and also with you.

The president may introduce the service.

A minister says

Hear the words of comfort our Savior Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11.2

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3.16

Hear what Saint Paul says: This saying is true, and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1

Timothy1.15

Hear what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words

'Let us pray'

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Savior, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end of each, the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Old Testament	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
Jeremiah 31.31-34	Psalm 133	2 Corinthians 5.16-21	Matthew 5.23-26

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All Glory to you Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord. All Praise to you Christ.

Sermon

Prayers of Penitence

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets

A period of silence is kept.

All Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Absolution

The minister says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Rejoicing in the forgiveness of sins, let us pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us

All 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 forever. Amen.

The Peace

The president says

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

The Blessing

The minister says

May God, who in Christ has reconciled all things in heaven and earth, grant you grace to walk the path of forgiveness; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

The Dismissal

The minister says

Go in peace. Mend what is broken; unite what is divided; live the gospel.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Ending

The president says

God has enlisted you in the ministry of reconciliation: go in his peace.

All Thanks be to God.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.

The ministers and people depart.