

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray

The prayers are then said. This response may be used:

Lord in your mercy **ALL: Hear our prayer**

At the end, the intercessor may say:

Merciful God **ALL: accept these prayers for the sake of your son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

## THE LORDS PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into  
temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE CONCLUSION & THE FINAL BLESSING

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
And bring forth the fruit of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God. Amen**

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who is the source of all goodness and growth,  
Pour his blessing upon all things created,  
And upon you his children,  
That you may use his gifts to God's glory and welfare of all  
Peoples;  
and the blessing of God almighty  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you  
and remain with you always. **Amen**

Birthdays, Children, chat

## THE GREETING

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**

## WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

The observance of Plough Sunday is associated with the first working day after the twelve days of Christmas. In medieval times some ploughs were kept in the parish church, and some churches kept a 'plough-light'. In days when work was scarce in winter, the observance looked forward to the time of sowing with the promise of a harvest to come. Christian communities have introduced it as a focus for asking a blessing on human labour near the start of the calendar year.

## SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE FOR PREPARATION

"Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the Lord that he may come and rain righteousness upon you." (Hosea 10:12)

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end,  
They are new every morning; great is his faithfulness

Let us come before God to inwardly confess our faults and admit to our frailty  
and be confident in God's promise of forgiveness

President Before God, with the people of God I confess to my broken  
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others,  
and the life of the world.

**All May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love**

President Amen.

**All Before God, with the people of God,  
we confess to our brokenness:  
to the ways we wound our lives,  
the lives of others,  
and the life of the world**

President May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love . **Amen**

## THE COLLECT

Creator God, who works through our hands and our minds,  
as we strive to renew the face of the earth and bring your kingdom;  
help us to feel reverence for the power you give us,  
and to love the small part of your creation  
which you have entrusted to each of us. **Amen.**

## HYMN

CHOIR led 719 'We plough the fields and scatter'

## THE READING

At the beginning of the reading you may like to say

The reading is taken from the OT the Book of Genesis chapter 1 verses 26 to  
chapter 2 verse 2

At the end of the reading you may like to say

For the word of God in Scripture ALL: **Thanks be to God**

## SERMON

### PLOUGH SUNDAY CREED

**By faith I gaze up to the heavens and know within its vastness  
that this is your creation planned and effected within eternity.**

**By faith I pluck an ear of corn and know within its symmetry  
lies the chemistry of life the potential of creation within my hand.**

**By faith I listen for your voice and know the whisper that I hear  
breathed a world into existence yet listens to the prayer within my soul.**

**By faith I strive to do your will and know the door that I approach  
may lead me to shadows where my role is to become your light.**

**By faith I cling to your word and know the strength that I receive  
has it's source within the love that is at the center of all things.**

## THE BLESSING OF THE PLOUGH

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
for in your abundant care you have given us fertile land, rich soil,  
the seasons in their courses.  
You provide seed for sowing, water, light and warmth  
to bring forth the miracle of growth.  
You give us skill to work the land,  
to prepare and nourish it, that it may be fruitful.  
By your blessing, let this plough be a sign of all that you promise to us.  
Prosper the work of our hands,  
and provide abundant crops for your people to share.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**  
God speed the plough.  
**God speed the plough.**

## THE BLESSING OF SEED

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
in your goodness you have given us this seed to sow.  
In it we perceive the promise of life,  
the wonders of your creative love.  
By your blessing,  
let this seed be for us a sign of your creative power,  
that in sowing and watering,  
tending and watching,  
we may see the miracle of growth,  
and in due course reap a rich harvest.  
As this seed must die to give life,  
reveal to us the saving power of your Son,  
who died that we might live,  
and plant in us the good seed of your word.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**  
By itself the earth produces:  
**First the stalk, then the ear, then the full grain shall appear. Amen**