

Resources needed for this liturgy:

This liturgy is written especially to celebrate mission on an ABM Sunday or other day when mission and ABM is the focus.

It can be adapted to fit your own service however to use it as it is written you will require the following resources:

- a box wrapped as an elaborate gift
- readings of your choice or those set for the day appropriate to mission
- the psalm is set as Psalm 149
- A Gospel reading
- Intercessions (you may wish to use the intercessions found at the front of ABM's Prayer Diary or those of your own choosing)
- A piece of reflective music to be played whilst people bring up their offering to the altar
- An offertory bowl placed on the altar
- Appropriate songs or hymns for mission and commitment.

A Liturgy for ABM Sunday

Mission: Sharing the Gift of the Gospel
A Liturgy for Holy Communion
To be used for an ABM Sunday

Prepared by The Reverend Scott Holmes, Diocese of Melbourne

MISSION – THE GIFT OF OUR PRESENCE

Welcome and Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

We are here because we were offered a gift,
the gift of the experience of the presence of God.

We are here because we received a gift,
the gift of the knowledge of the love of God.

We are here because we opened a gift,
the gift of the wisdom of the compassion of God.

We are here because we have these gifts to share,
the gift of the mission of the people of God.

We are here, and we are thankful, **Amen.**

A song of thanksgiving

During this song we will pass around from one to another a wrapped 'gift' as a symbol of our the gift of our presence to God and each other in this time of worship.

Confession

Absolution

Affirmation of Faith (from the Iona Community)

As we offer the gift of our wholehearted presence to God, we discover God's gift to us – the constant presence of the Christ, giver of the gift of new beginnings. In the spirit of that gift, let us affirm our faith

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of the One God,
maker and sustainer of earth, sea and sky.**

**Born of Mary's womb,
faithful to the God of Abraham and Sarah,
Jesus healed the sick, served the poor,
and proclaimed heaven on earth.**

**Condemned by the religious,
crucified by the state,
he died, but transformed even death
and rose to life everlasting.**

**He blessed the disciples with his Holy Spirit
and sent them forth east and west, north and south.**

**We commit ourselves to Jesus,
to one another as sisters and brothers
and to his mission in the world
in the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

A collect for the Anglican Board of Mission

**God of all,
bless the Anglican Board of Mission
as it serves the Church in Australia
and our partner churches overseas.
Inspire its work and its vision
that all may come to know your justice,
your peace and your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

MISSION – THE GIFT OF OUR LISTENING

First reading

Psalm 149

O praise the Lord, and sing to the Lord a new song:

O praise him in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in him that made him:

let the children of Zion be joyful in their king.

Let them praise him in the dance:

let them sing his praise with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people:

he adorns the meek with his salvation.

Let his faithful ones exult in his glory:

let them sing for joy upon their beds.

Let the high praises of God be in their mouths:

and a two-edged sword in their hands.

To execute vengeance on the nations:

and chastisement upon the peoples.

To bind their kings in chains:

and their nobles with fetters of iron.

To visit upon them the judgement that is decreed:

such honour belongs to all his faithful servants.

Praise the Lord.

Second Reading

Song

Gospel reading

Sermon

MISSION – THE GIFT OF OUR PRAYING

Intecessions, concluding with

Our Father in heaven

hallowed be your name;

**your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

MISSION – THE GIFT OF SHARING

Sharing of our resources

Mission is sharing in action. Today, instead of letting the collection bowl come to us, we will go to the bowl, which is on the altar. During this time some quiet music will be played. Our offerings for the communion will also be brought in during this time.

Greeting of peace

We are the body of Christ

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Notices

Song

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to God

**it is right to give our
thanks and praise.**

Generous God,

giver of the gift of life;

Yours is the voice that calls to your people,

calling us to remember your presence,

to listen to your wisdom.

Yours are the arms that reach out to your people,
embracing us with your forgiveness,
encircling us with your protection.
Yours is the Spirit that fills your people,
enfusing us with courage,
and making us in your image.
Your mission towards us never ends
and your hopes for us are beyond our deepest yearnings.
Therefore, with apostles and prophets,
with holy women and men of every age,
with people of mission both near and far,
we join our voices to sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord;

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory:

Hosanna in the highest.

From the depths of your yearnings for us
you sent your Son to live our life amongst us.
In trust and love Jesus lived your mission for him,
bringing to us good news of new life
and the promise of your unfailing goodness.
On the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends,
and while at table he took the bread,
gave you thanks, broke it, and shared it with them, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.'
Likewise after supper he took the cup,
gave you thanks, and shared it with them, saying,
'This is my blood, shed for you.'
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Generous God,
may this holy meal, filled with the presence of Christ,
be for us sustenance for the mission you give us.
In the sharing of this bread and wine
may we be empowered to share the gift of the gospel.
In the knowledge of Christ's giving of himself for us,
may we look beyond ourselves to the needs of your creation.
As your mission towards us never ends,
so may our life be one of joyful mission to others,
for you are our God, our joy, our hope.
Blessing and honour, glory and power,
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.
We break this bread to share in the mission of Christ.
We who are many, are called to one mission,
For we all share in the one bread.

All present are invited to come forward and share in the communion.

MISSION – THE GIFT OF COMMITMENT

Song of Commitment

Prayer of commitment (from the Iona Community)

Look at your hands, see the touch and the tenderness,

God's own for the world.

Look at your feet, see the path and the direction,

God's own for the world.

Look at your heart, see the fire and the love,

God's own for the world.

Look at the cross, see God's Son and our Saviour,

God's own for the world.

This is God's world,

and we will serve God in it.

May God, maker, keeper and lover, bless you

and keep you always,

and lead your lives with love. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen.

*The Opening responses and Thanksgiving Prayer were written by
Scott Holmes. Other content from sources as indicated.*

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