



WAVE OF PRAYER BUILDING HOPE & CONFIDENCE 2020

WELCOME & GATHERING

“Building hope and confidence” is at the heart of our call to support individuals and families to transform their lives. So we gather to celebrate our hope and confidence in God, which inspire and equip us to build hope and confidence in others, as we reach out in love and service.

PRAYER OF PREPARTION

With thankfulness and love we take our place
in the family of Mothers' Union worldwide.

**Open our eyes to the significance of relationship
with members worldwide, with those known to us or not.**

With support and love we reach out
to our sisters and brothers across the world.

**Strengthen our commitment to those with whom
we share vision and values, wherever we may live.**

In unity and love we link hands
with our worldwide family of God.

**Unite us in worship; build us in service,
as together we seek to share your love.**

In Jesus' name. Amen.

CONFESSION

**Merciful Lord, forgive us when we shun the security
of your eternal promises and build our hope and confidence
on the shifting sands of this world.**

**Lord of steadfast security, help us to anchor our lives on you,
that we may place our confidence in your unfailing word
and build hope that endures in those you call us to serve. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

May our loving Lord bless us
with forgiveness and grace
that we may be renewed
in hope and confidence
to gladly serve his world. Amen.

New Testament Reading: Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9.35-38

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

TALK / SHARING OF STORIES / MU UPDATE

THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSIONS

My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love.

Colossians 2:2

As we come to give thanks for Mothers' Union Worldwide, may God

encourage us in heart and unite us in love.

We pray for our World Wide President, Sheran Harper, Provincial President, Kathryn Anderson, and Diocesan President, Jill Cannings. We pray for all who are working to resolve the financial challenges of Mary Sumner House.

We pray for our link dioceses:

Loving Lord, we bring to you our praise for the fellowship and prayer support that we have through our links with the dioceses of: Oyo and Aba Ngwa North in Nigeria; the diocese of Rumbek in South Sudan; the diocese of Soroti in Uganda; the diocese of North Eastern Caribbean & Aruba; and for our own diocese of Peterborough.

We thank you for the times when we have built relationships through sharing and visits.

We thank you for the times when lack of news has driven us to pray and intercede.

We give thanks for the blessing of being united in prayer with our link dioceses.

We pledge to continue to remember our sisters and brothers in prayer and especially any who continue to struggle with the effects caused by Covid 19..

We pray for all members. May God be with them in every part of their lives, encouraging them and leading them, sheltering and strengthening them, so they may work to your praise and glory. Amen.

(Some additional or alternative prayers may be used.)

We join together in the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

**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 PEACE

Almighty God, as you have loved us and made us your friends,
so you have called us to love one another.

The peace of the Lord be always with you; **and also with you.**

(Maintaining social distancing, you can nod to your neighbour.)

THE MOTHERS' UNION PRAYER

Loving Lord,

we thank you for your love so freely given to us all.

We pray for families around the world.

**Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share
your love through the encouragement, strengthening and
support of marriage and family life.**

**Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and
in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus'
name. Amen.**

A Service of Communion can be included here.

THE BLESSING

Lord, as we have celebrated your goodness together,
may our unity deepen and grow.

We are the family of God.

Your love draws us into yourself
and out to one another.

**We reach out as your hands
across the world.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

We say the Grace together:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**