

Opening Prayers

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

We confess that too often Your Church has failed to reflect Your Kingdom.

We have ignored the voices of women.

We have tolerated injustice.

We have remained silent in the face of gender-based violence.

We have allowed culture to speak louder than Your Gospel.

Forgive us for every occasion when prejudice has replaced love, power has replaced service, and exclusion has replaced hospitality.

Cleanse our hearts.

Transform Your Church.

Teach us again that in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one in Christ Jesus.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News:

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation.

In Christ we are forgiven.

In Christ we are restored.

In Christ we are called to be ministers of reconciliation.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Dear Lord,

We come together on this glorious morning to celebrate your love. Thank you that we can step into your presence just as we are — not as we think we ought to be, but as we truly are, with all that we carry. We come before you to lay down our sorrows, our wrongs, and our joys, trusting that you receive each of us with the same grace.

We want to try to give you our full presence for the next hour — something we so often struggle to do in our day-to-day lives, where our minds race ahead and our hearts are pulled in a hundred directions. So, we ask you now: help us, Lord, to calm our minds and open our hearts. Quiet the noise within us and let us rest in the stillness of this sacred time together.

Today, we celebrate Women's Day, and we want to be conscious of all the women who influence our lives, those who have shaped us, carried us, taught us, and loved us. We remember too the women of Scripture whom you have elevated and set

before us as role models, in both the Old and New Testaments. We think of their courage and their faith — women who were often more revolutionary and progressive than we might fully understand. Through them you remind us that you see, you call, and you honour those the world too easily overlooks.

Draw us close to you this hour, Lord. Open our ears to your Word, our hearts to your Spirit, and our lives to one another.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Let us pray together:

**Our Father-Mother in heaven,
hallowed be your name.**

Your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive those who are in our debt.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kin-dom, the power and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

2026 08 09 Women's Day

Liturgy provided by Bishop Yvette Moses

Prayer by Carolin Gomulia