150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION

Join us, Join in

WORLDWIDE GATHERING WORSHIP

30 September - 3 October

A4 Worship Booklet ARTWORK.indd 1 23/09/2026 09:17:21

Gathering – Come, let us gather

Wednesday, 30 September 2026

Welcome

Leader:

Welcome to this Opening Worship Service of the Mothers' Union Worldwide Gathering.

Today we come from across the world, from different countries, cultures, communities and circumstances, yet we gather as one family in Christ.

We gather with gratitude for 150 years of Mothers' Union.

We gather remembering Mary Sumner, whose faith, prayer and determination became the beginning of a movement that would reach generations of families across the world.

And we gather not only to look back, but to look forward — asking God to renew our calling and to show us how we can continue to light the way for generations to come.

Wherever we have travelled from, whatever language we speak, and whatever our experience of Mothers' Union, today we belong together.

We are the worldwide family of Mothers' Union.

So, come, let us gather. Come, let us worship. Come, let us listen for the voice of God.

And come, let us be ready to receive the light of Christ and to carry that light into the world.

Greeting

Leader: We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:

All: Let us worship Him together.

Call to Worship

Leader: This is your day

All: and we shall praise you!

Leader: This is your day

All: and we shall declare your name!

Leader: This is your day,

All: and we shall worship a risen Saviour and our King!

Opening Hymn

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me

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The Lighting of the way

Leader: For 150 years, Mothers' Union members have sought to respond to the call of God through prayer, love and practical action.

One generation has passed the light to another.

Lighting of the Anniversary Candle

A large candle is brought forward and placed in a prominent position.

Leader: Jesus said: 'You are the light of the world.'

Today, as we begin our Worldwide Gathering, this flame represents the light of Christ, the light that guides us, strengthens us and sends us.

It also reminds us of the light that has been carried faithfully through 150 years of Mothers' Union.

From generation to generation. From community to community. From country to country. From one faithful life to another.

Candle is lit by Kathleen Snow, Worldwide President of Mothers' Union.

Leader: We give thanks for the light we have received.

We give thanks for the generations who have carried it before us.

And we pray that God will enable us to carry that light faithfully into the future.

All: **Lord Jesus Christ,**
Light of the world,
shine upon us,
shine through us,
and guide our way.
Amen.

Confession and absolution

Confession

Leader: As we come into the light of Christ, we also come honestly before God.
Let us be still before the Lord.
Rest quietly in his presence.
Listen.

Silence is kept.

Let us bring before the Lord the words that may have hurt and
all those left unsaid;
the anger we have felt
and the resentment we have fed.
Let us be still before the Lord.
Rest quietly in his presence.
Listen.

Silence is kept.

The Lord is slow to anger,
willing to forgive, full of grace.
Draw near to him.
Rest quietly in his presence.
Listen.

Silence is kept.

Absolution

Leader: May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Collect

Leader: Let us pray.

Faithful and loving God,
who called Mary Sumner to strive for the renewal of family life:
give us the gift of your Holy Spirit,
that through word, prayer and deed
your family may be strengthened
and your people served;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
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

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1–14

Reader: A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

60 “Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
2 See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
3 Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 “Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
5 Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.

6 Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the Lord.

7 All Kedar’s flocks will be gathered to you,
the rams of Nebaioth will serve you;
they will be accepted as offerings on my altar,
and I will adorn my glorious temple.

8 “Who are these that fly along like clouds,
like doves to their nests?
9 Surely the islands look to me;
in the lead are the ships of Tarshish,[a]
bringing your children from afar,
with their silver and gold,
to the honor of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.

10 “Foreigners will rebuild your walls,
and their kings will serve you.
Though in anger I struck you,
in favor I will show you compassion.

11 Your gates will always stand open,
they will never be shut, day or night,
so that people may bring you the wealth of the nations—
their kings led in triumphal procession.
12 For the nation or kingdom that will not serve you will perish;
it will be utterly ruined.

13 “The glory of Lebanon will come to you,
the juniper, the fir and the cypress together,
to adorn my sanctuary;
and I will glorify the place for my feet.
14 The children of your oppressors will come bowing before you;
all who despise you will bow down at your feet
and will call you the City of the Lord,
Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregation stands

Hymn

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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The congregation remains standing for the Gospel reading.

Second Reading: Matthew 5:13–20

Reader: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

13 "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness,
how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for
anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot
be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under
a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to
everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine
before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify
your Father in heaven.

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the
Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.
18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the
smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means
disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.
19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these
commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least
in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches
these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of
the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not
enter the kingdom of heaven.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

Hymn

1

Thuma mina.
Thuma mina,
thuma mina,
thuma mina,
Somandla.

2

Send me, Lord.
Send me, Jesus,
send me, Jesus,
send me, Jesus,
send me, Lord.

3

Lead me, Lord.
Lead me, Jesus,
lead me, Jesus,
lead me, Jesus,
lead me, Lord.

4

Fill me, Lord.
Fill me, Jesus,
fill me, Jesus,
fill me, Jesus,
fill me, Lord.

Affirmation of Faith

Leader: Let us declare our faith in God.

All: **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: In the light of Christ, let us pray for the Church, for the world, for families and communities, and for the work to which God calls us.

Prayers – Led by Mothers' Union Trustees

Loving God,
we give you thanks for the worldwide family of Mothers' Union.
For every country represented here today and for all who are not;
for every member, branch, diocese and province;
for every person who prays, serves, encourages and gives;
and for every family whose life has been touched by this movement.
Strengthen the bonds that unite us across the world.
Help us to listen to one another, learn from one another and stand together in love.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

God of compassion,
we pray for families and communities throughout the world.
Where there is poverty, bring provision.
Where there is violence, bring safety.

Where there is loneliness, bring companionship.
Where relationships are broken, bring healing.
Where there is fear, bring courage.
Where there is despair, bring hope.
Make us attentive to the needs around us and ready to respond with love.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

God of justice,
we pray for all who experience gender-based violence, domestic abuse, modern slavery, discrimination, racism, poverty and oppression.

We pray for people who feel unseen or unheard.

Give courage to all who speak for justice.

Give wisdom to people who work for change.

And make us people who welcome, respect and value every person, regardless of background or circumstance.

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Gracious God,
we give you thanks for the work of Mothers' Union throughout the world.

For literacy and skills programmes;
for parenting and family support;
for work with survivors of domestic abuse;
for support for prisoners and their families;
for communities strengthened and lives transformed;
and for every project, large or small, through which your love is made visible.

Bless all who serve.
Give wisdom to our leaders and trustees.
Give courage to everyone who advocates for justice.
And help us to remain faithful to our calling.
Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Lord God,
we pray for the leaders of Mothers' Union worldwide, for our Worldwide President Kathleen, for the trustees and leaders in every zone, province, diocese and branch, and for all who carry responsibility for the life and mission of Mothers' Union.

We pray also for bishops, clergy and all who serve the Church. We pray for our patron, The Archbishop of Canterbury, Archbishop Sarah and for Archbishop Thabo, Archbishop of Southern Africa.

Give them wisdom, humility and strength.

May they lead with faith, listen with compassion and serve with courage.

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Faithful God,
as we celebrate 150 years, we place the future of Mothers' Union into your hands.

Renew our vision. Refresh our calling. Give us courage to respond to the needs of our time.

Help us to be willing to change where change is needed, faithful to the Gospel, and united in our desire to serve.

May the generations who follow us find that we have faithfully carried the light we received.

Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Lord,
we give you thanks today for the life and witness of Mary Sumner and for her vision in creating Mothers' Union.

We give you thanks for all those who have followed her example;

for every prayer offered, every act of kindness, every family strengthened, every vulnerable person protected, every community renewed, and every life touched through the work of Mothers' Union.

Keep us mindful and inspired by those who have gone before us.

May we play our part faithfully for those who will follow.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: We say together Mary Sumner's personal prayer.

All: All this day, O Lord,
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;
and every life I touch
do thou by thy spirit quicken,
whether through the word I speak,
the prayer I breathe
or the life I live.
Amen.

Leader: For 150 years, God has been faithful.

We give thanks for the vision of Mary Sumner.

We give thanks for every generation that has carried the work forward.

We give thanks for the members gathered across the world today.

We give thanks for the prayers that have been prayed, the hands that have served, the voices that have spoken for justice, and the lives that have been changed.

And we give thanks that the story is not finished.

Loving and faithful God,
we thank you for 150 years of Mothers' Union;
for every life touched, every prayer offered, every act of kindness given in your name.

We praise you for the vision of Mary Sumner,
and for the countless members who have served you with love, courage and quiet faithfulness throughout the years.

You have been our refuge, our strength and our guide.

As we stand at this milestone, we place our past into your hands with gratitude, and our future into your trust.

Renew our calling, O God.

Refresh our vision.

Strengthen us for the days ahead.

Help us to walk humbly, love deeply, and serve faithfully, wherever you lead.

May we continue to be instruments of your peace, bearers of your compassion, and witnesses to your love in the world.

We commit Mothers' Union, today and for generations to come, into your loving care.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray with confidence, each in the language of our hearts:

All: **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.

Going forward – lighting the way ahead

Leader: We have gathered here today
We have listened.
We have remembered.
We have prayed.
And we have received the light.
Now we are called to carry it.
The anniversary we celebrate is not simply a celebration of the past.
It is an invitation to the future.
For the next generation.
For the families we have yet to meet.
For the communities where God will call us to serve.
For people who need hope, justice, dignity and love.
Jesus says: "You are the light of the world."
So let us go as people who have received the light.
Let us reflect the light of Christ in our homes.
Let us reflect it in our churches.
Let us reflect it in our communities.
Let us reflect it in our advocacy and our action.
And let us carry it together, across borders, across cultures and across generations.

All: **Amen**

Katheleen Snow, Worldwide President:

One light can be carried by many.
One prayer can reach across the world.
One act of love can change a life.
And one faithful response to God's call can become a movement.
Today we begin the next chapter.
Together, in Christ.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn

1

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

3

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

© Author / Oxford University Press
Timothy Dudley-Smith During the final hymn, the anniversary candle remains lit as a visible reminder of the call to carry Christ's light into the world.

Blessing & Dismissal

Leader: All praise be to God, by whose power one woman's vision became reality through the founding of Mothers' Union.

All praise be to God who has led us thus far and whose Spirit inspires us for what lies ahead.

May the God who has called us, the Christ whose light shines among us, and the Holy Spirit who strengthens us, equip us to serve faithfully in the years to come.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Leader: United in love across the world, go in peace to serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.
Amen.

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION
Join us, Join in

Bread for the journey



OPENING EUCHARIST

Holy Communion for the Global Gathering

Thursday, 1 October 2026

Celebrant & Preacher: The Dean of the Province

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ORDER OF SERVICE

1 Introit hymn *Tune: Laudate Dominum*

1

Ye servants of God,
your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad
his wonderful name;
the name all victorious
of Jesus extol:
his kingdom is glorious,
and rules over all.

2

God ruleth on high,
almighty to save;
and still he is nigh:
his presence we have:
the great congregation
his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation
to Jesus our King.

3

Salvation to God
who sits on the throne!
let all cry aloud,
and honour the Son.
The praises of Jesus
the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces,
and worship the Lamb.

4

Then let us adore,
and give him his right:
all glory and pow'r,
all wisdom and might,
and honour and blessing,
with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing,
and infinite love.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

2 Hymn *Tune: NICAEA*

1

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessèd Trinity!

2

Baitshephi botlhe ba wa ka mangole,
G' obamela Kgosi e' ntseng mo teroneng,
E bong Rara, Morwa, Mowa wa letshego,
O le Boraro mo Bongwefeleng.

3

Iwe Unoyera, rima rinosvisa
Mbiri yako huru kune vanyangadzi;
Iwe Unoyera, hapanazve mumwe
Anoperera simba, norudo.

4

Ngcwele, Ngcwele, Ngcwele, Nkosi uSomandla
Konke okwakho kuyakubonga wena
Ngcwele, Ngcwele, Ngcwele, wen' onesihawu,
Ongqobo Ntathu, ube umunye.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 2 (Setswana)
All the saints fall down before you,
worshipping the King enthroned above:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Three in One for evermore.

Verse 3 (Shona)
Holy are you; though darkness conceals
your glorious splendour from sinful eyes,
holy are you; there is none beside you,
perfect in power and perfect in love.

Verse 4 (isiZulu)
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All that is yours shall offer praise to you.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and gracious,
three Persons, yet for ever one.

THE GREETING

3 Leader greets the people, saying:

The Lord be with you
And also with you

People of God, gathered from many nations, cultures and communities, we are one body in Christ.
Let us worship God in unity and joy.

4 The Synaxist continues

Praise the Lord
Praise him you servants of the Lord

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be his Name, now and for ever

5 The Gloria in Excelsis is sung in isiZulu

Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King
almighty God and Father
we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
you take away the sin of
the world:

receive our prayer.
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right
hand of the Father:

For you alone are the Holy One
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

Makudunyiswe uNkulunkulu
ophezulu kubekhona ukuthula
kubantu bakhe abasemhlabeni.
Nkosi Nkulunkulu, Nkosi
yasezulwini, Somandla Nkulunkulu
onguBaba, siyakudumisa,
sikubonga,
sikubabaza ngenkazimulo yakho

Nkosi Jesu Khristu,
Ndodana eyodwa kaYise
Nkosi Nkulunkulu, Mvana
kaNkulunkulu,
wena osusa izono zomhlaba:

yemukela ukukhuleka kwethu.
sihawukele;
wena ohlezi ngasekunene kuka
Yise:

Ngokuba nguwe wedwa
ongoNgcwele
nguwe wedwa oyiNkosi
nguwe wedwa ongoPhezukonke
Jesu Khristu, okanye noMoya
oNgcwele, enkazimulweni
kaNkulunkulu uYise. Amen

6 Let us pray

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open
all desires known
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

7 The Kyrie is sung in isiZulu

Lord, have mercy — Nkosi, sihawukele
Christ, have mercy — Khristu, sihawukele
Lord, have mercy — Nkosi, sihawukele

THE PENITENCE

8 Jesus said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

9 Let us confess our sins

Silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess
    that we have sinned against you
    through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
    in newness of life
to the glory of your Name.

10 The Dean of the Province stands and says

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you; pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

11 The Dean of the Province prays the Collect for Remigius
APB 321

God our Father
you called us out of darkness
    into your marvellous light
and you gave your servant Remigius
    to shine as a light in the world:
shine in our hearts
and enable us to proclaim your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Dean of the Province prays the following Collect for Mary Sumner

Lord we give thanks for the life of Mary Sumner,
for her obedience to your calling,
for her vision for the Mothers' Union.
We pray that through the grace of your Holy Spirit
we may receive renewed confidence
and share that vision.

We give you thanks and praise
for the many people around the world
who reach out in the name of the Mothers' Union,
through our work may we touch the lives of those we meet,
that they too may know your love:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE WORD OF GOD

12 *A reading from Job 19:21-27*

21 Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand
of God has touched me! 22 Why do you, like God, pursue me, never
satisfied with my flesh? 23 'O that my words were written down! O
that they were inscribed in a book! 24 O that with an iron pen and
with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! 25 For I know that
my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the
earth; 26 and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh
I shall see God, 27 whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall
behold, and not another. My heart faints within me!

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

13 We shall say Psalm 27:9-17 together *The Synaxist continues.*

9 O Lord, hear my voice when I cry:
have mercy upon me and answer me.
10 My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face':
your face, Lord, I will seek.
11 Do not hide your face from me:
or thrust your servant aside in displeasure;
12 For you have been my helper:
do not cast me away or forsake me, O God of my salvation.
13 Though my father and my mother forsake me:
the Lord will take me up.

14 Teach me your way, O Lord:
and lead me in an even path, for they lie in wait for me.
15 Do not give me over to the will of my enemies:
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and those who breathe out violence.
16 But I believe that I shall surely see the goodness of the Lord:
in the land of the living.
17 O wait for the Lord; stand firm and he will strengthen your heart: and wait, I say, for the Lord.

Glory to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning: is now and will be for ever. Amen

14 The Gradual hymn *Tune: SLANE*

1

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

4

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise:
Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
Great heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Irish (c. 8th century) trans. Mary Byrne (1880-1931), versified, Eleanor Hull (1860-1935).

THE GOSPEL

Please stand for the gospel reading

15 Listen to the Good News proclaimed

in the Gospel according to Luke 10:1-12
Glory to Christ our Saviour

1 After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on
ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself
intended to go. 2 He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the
labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out
labourers into his harvest. 3 Go on your way. See, I am sending you
out like lambs into the midst of wolves. 4 Carry no purse, no bag, no
sandals; and greet no one on the road. 5 Whatever house you enter,
first say, "Peace to this house!" 6 And if anyone is there who shares
in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return
to you. 7 Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever
they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move
about from house to house. 8 Whenever you enter a town and its
people welcome you, eat what is set before you; 9 cure the sick who
are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to
you." 10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome
you, go out into its streets and say, 11 "Even the dust of your town
that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know
this: the kingdom of God has come near." 12 I tell you, on that day it
will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ our Lord

16 The Synaxist continues.

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ
the only Son of God
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light
true God from true God
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord
the giver of life
who proceeds from the Father and the Son
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen

17 The Sermon by Dean of the Province

18 The Prayers of the Church

Faithful and merciful God, you gather us from many nations, cultures and communities and unite us as one family around the table of Christ.

As we celebrate 150 years of Mothers' Union, receive our thanksgiving and hear our prayers for the Church, the world and all your people.

We pray for the nations of the world:
for places wounded by war, violence and injustice;
for refugees and all who have been driven from their homes;
for those who hunger for food, freedom, dignity and peace;
and for all who hold positions of leadership and influence.

God of justice and peace, transform
our hostility into reconciliation,
our greed into generosity,
and our fear into compassionate action.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for your Church throughout the world:
for all who proclaim the gospel,
all who serve Christ in difficult and dangerous places,
and all who work for unity within the Body of Christ.

Bless the worldwide family of Mothers' Union.
We give thanks for 150 years of prayer, loving service
and courageous witness.
Remember before you all who established and nurtured this movement,
and all whose faithful service has brought us to this day.

God of faithfulness, transform
our divisions into communion,
our weariness into renewed strength,
and our uncertainty into confident faith.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this Global Gathering
and for every community represented here.
As you gathered your people around manna in the wilderness,
and as Jesus fed the multitude with bread,
nourish us through your Word and Sacrament.

Open our hearts to one another.
Help us to listen across differences of language, culture and experience.
May our fellowship strengthen our common purpose
and renew our commitment to joining in your work
of transforming families and communities.

God of unity, transform
our prejudice into understanding,
our exclusion into welcome,
and our indifference into loving concern.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for families and communities throughout the world:
for marriages and relationships in need of healing;
for parents, grandparents, guardians and caregivers;
for children and young people seeking hope and belonging;
and for all who live with loneliness, poverty, unemployment,
abuse, displacement or discrimination.

Strengthen the ministry of Mothers' Union
among those whose voices are often unheard.
Make us courageous advocates for women and girls,
faithful protectors of children,
and companions to all who are vulnerable or marginalised.

God of compassion, transform
our silence into advocacy,
our helplessness into service,
and our good intentions into faithful action.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need:
for those who are sick in body, mind or spirit;
for those who are anxious, exhausted or overwhelmed;
for the lonely, the bereaved and all who mourn;
and for those who care for them with patience and love.

In the silence of our hearts,
we bring before you those known personally to us.

Silence may be kept.

God of healing, transform
our fear into trust,
our despair into hope,
and our sorrow into the assurance of your presence.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We remember with thanksgiving
all faithful members of Mothers' Union
who have completed their earthly journey,
especially those whose prayer, witness and loving service
have shaped the life of this worldwide fellowship.

May we, following their example
and strengthened by the communion of saints,
remain rooted in Christ and fruitful in service
until we gather at your eternal banquet.

God of resurrection, transform
our mourning into hope,
our weakness into strength,
and our death into everlasting life.

Give us this day the bread we need for the journey.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of the journey,
you have sustained Mothers' Union for 150 years.
As we receive the Bread of Life at this holy table,
nourish us for the road ahead.
Send us out renewed in hope,
steadfast in prayer,
courageous in service
and united in love.

Following the faithful example of Mary,
may we say yes to your call
and carry Christ into the life of the world.

Accept these prayers,
through Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

19 Dean of the Province continues The greeting of peace

We are the Body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Peace be with you

20 Offertory hymn

1

Ndiv’ izwi lako, Nkosi,
Liti ‘ndize kuwe,
Ndihlanjwe ngqe e-Gazini
Elop’ e-Kalvari.

Ndiza kuwe, Nkosi
Ndiza ngoku nje,
Ndenze mhlop’ e-Gazini
Elop’ e-Kalvari.

2

Noko ndipelelwe,
Usandomeleza,
Uhlambe ukuncola kwam,
Ndide ndibe ngcwele.

3

Inguye u-Yesu
Owandibabala
Ukol’, utando, netemba,
Apa napezulu.

4

Inguye u-Yesu
Osebenzayo kum,
Endongezelel’ ufefe,
Egxotil’ isono.

5

A! Gazi lingcwele,
Elandikulula,
Isipo s-Onobubele,
U-Kristu iNkosi.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – isiXhosa

Verse 1

I hear your voice, O Lord,
calling me to come to you,
to be completely cleansed by the
Blood that flowed at Calvary.

Refrain

I come to you, O Lord;
I come to you just as I am.
Wash me white in the Blood
that flowed at Calvary.

Verse 2

Though I am weak and helpless,
you continue to strengthen me.
Wash away all my uncleanness
until I am made holy.

Verse 3

It is Jesus
who has graciously given me
faith, love and hope,
both here and in heaven.

Verse 4

It is Jesus
who is working within me,
increasing his grace
and driving away sin.

Verse 5

O holy Blood,
which has set me free:
the gift of the Merciful One,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

21 Offertory hymn

1

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

2

Ngibabaza okwenzileyo Nkosi
Umhlaba lo osenzele wona
Ezulwini ngibon' izinkanyezi
Nay' imvula ivel' ezulwini.
Umoya wami uyakudumisa
Umukhulu Simakade.
Umoya wami uyakudumisa
Umukhulu Simakade.

3

U Seun word mens, in ons gebroke wereld
Kom vestig Hy sy konings heerskappy.
Hy maak weer reg wat sonde hier geskend het
Hy bring weer hoop en redding ook vir my.
Dan moet ek juig my Redder en my God!
Hoe groot is U! Hoe groot is U!
Want deur die hele skepping klink dit saam:
Hoe groot O Heer, hoe groot U naam!

4

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, My God, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

Karl Boberg (1859-1940) trans. Stuart K. Hime (1899-1989)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 2 (isiZulu)

I marvel at all you have done, O Lord,
And at the world that you have made.
In the heavens I behold the stars,
And the rain that comes down from above.

Then sings my soul in praise of you:
How great you are, Almighty God!
Then sings my soul in praise of you:
How great you are, Almighty God!

Verse 3 (Afrikaans)

His Son became a man within our broken world
And came to establish his sovereign reign.
He restores what sin has ruined here;
He brings me hope and salvation once again.

Then I must sing, my Saviour and my God:
How great you are! How great you are!
For all creation joins in one refrain:
How great, O Lord, how great your name!.

22 *Dean of the Province continues Prayer for alms and other gifts for the church*

Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. **Amen**

23 *At the taking of the bread and wine*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever

THE FIRST EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Dean of the Province continues

24 The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give him thanks and praise

It is right and indeed our duty and joy, Lord and heavenly Father, God almighty and eternal, always and everywhere to give thanks through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord;

Because through him you have created everything from the beginning and formed us in your own image;

Through him you delivered us from the slavery of sin, when you gave him to be born as man, to die on the cross and to rise again for us;

Through him you claimed us as your own people when you enthroned him with you in heaven, and through him sent out your Holy Spirit, the giver of life.

25 Proper preface

And now we give you thanks for the glorious pledge of the hope of our calling which you have given us in your saints; that, following their example and strengthened by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.

26 Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we acclaim you and declare the greatness of your glory; we praise you now and for ever saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Hear us, Father, through your Son Christ our Lord; through him accept our offering of thanks and praise, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine so that they may be to us his body and his blood.

For on the night that he was betrayed he took bread, and when he had given you thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, 'Take this and eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me'

So too after supper he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them saying, 'Drink of it all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.'

27 So we proclaim the mystery of faith

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again.

Holy Father, with these your gifts, we your people celebrate before you the one perfect sacrifice of Christ our Lord, his rising from the dead and his ascending to the glory of heaven.

Gracious Lord, accept us in him, unworthy though we are, so that we who share in the body and blood of your Son may be made one with all your people of this and every age.

Grant that as we await the coming of Christ our Saviour in the glory and triumph of his kingdom, we may daily grow into his likeness; with whom, and in whom, and through whom, by the power of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour be given to you, almighty Father, by the whole company of earth and heaven, throughout all ages, now and for ever.
Amen

28 As Christ has taught us we are bold to say

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 them that 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

29 Dean of the Province continues

The bread which we break
is it not a sharing of the body of Christ?
We, who are many, are one body
for we all partake of the one bread

30 **We do not presume**
to come to this your table, merciful Lord
trusting in our own righteousness
but in your manifold and great mercies,
we are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs
under your table
but you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood
that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.

Dean of the Province continues

31 Draw near and receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

32 The Agnus Dei is sung in isiZulu

Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
grant us Your peace.

Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
sihawukele.
Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
sihawukele.
Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
siphe ukuthula.

33 Communion hymn *Tune: HYFRODOL*

1

Jesu osisindisayo
Samkele sisondele
Sesifike ekudleni
Okwamiswayo nguwe.

2

Ngokuvalelisa kwakho
Washo kub' abafundi
Ngokugcina izwi lami
Niyakungikhumbula.

3

Yidlanini lesisinkwa
Niphuze newayini
Lokhu kunguMzimba wami
Lokhu liGazi lami.

4

Yebo Jesu lokhukudla
Sikudla ngokukholwa
Ngaso lesisikhumbuzo
Siyakukhumbula. Amen

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – isiZulu

Verse 1

Jesus, our Saviour,
receive us as we draw near.
We have come to share the
meal which you yourself
established.

Verse 2

When you were taking leave
of them,
you said to your disciples:
"By keeping these words of
mine,
you will remember me."

Verse 3

Eat this bread
and drink this wine:
this is my Body,
and this is my Blood.

Verse 4

Yes, Jesus, we receive this
food and partake of it in faith.
Through this sacred
memorial,
we remember you. Amen.

34 Communion hymn Tune: ROCKINGHAM or VENI CREATOR

1

And now, O Father, mindful of the love
that bought us, once for all, on Calv'ry's tree,
and having with us him that pleads above,
we here present, we here spread forth to thee
that only off'ring perfect in thine eyes,
the one, true, pure, immortal sacrifice.

2

Look, Father, look on his anointed face,
and only look on us as found in him;
look not on our misusings of thy grace,
our prayer so languid, and our faith so dim:
for lo, between our sins and their reward
we set the Passion of thy Son our Lord.

3

And then for those, our dearest and our best,
by this prevailing presence we appeal:
O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast,
O do thine utmost for their souls' true weal;
from tainting mischief keep them pure and clear,
and crown thy gifts with strength to persevere.

4

And so we come: O draw us to thy feet,
most patient Saviour, who canst love us still;
and by this food, so aweful and so sweet,
deliver us from ev'ry touch of ill:
in thine own service make us glad and free,
and grant us never more to part with thee.

William Bright (1824-1901)

35 Communion hymn

1

Uyi-ndlela yenyaniso,
Nyana lo ka-Tixo wam;
Ndimi ngawi onk' ama,
Wena unobomi bam.

2

Uti ngobubele bako,
"Sondelani nonke kam;
Ndonivis' olwam uxolo,
Ndonivis' ufefe lwam.

3

"Kaulezani, nab' ubomi
Eniyakubudla ngam;
Nas' i-Sonka, ese-Zulu;
Sondelani, nitye nam.

4

"Ndisi-Sonka sokupila,
Ndingamanzi abubom:
Ningasela nitye nonke,
Nize e-Zulwini kum."

5

Nkosi ndomeleze mina,
Ndize ndidl' ubomi nam,
Ndibe nokukudumisa
Ngayo intliziyo yam.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – isiXhosa

Verse 1

You are the true and living Way,
Son of my God.
Through you I stand at all times;
you are my life.

Verse 2

In your loving kindness you say:
"Come near to me, all of you.
I will let you know my peace;
I will let you experience my grace."

Verse 3

"Come quickly and receive the life
that you shall enjoy through me.
Here is the Bread of Heaven;
draw near and eat with me.

Verse 4

"I am the Bread of Life,
and I am the living water.
Come, all of you, drink and eat,
so that you may come to me in
heaven."

Verse 5

Lord, strengthen me,
that I too may receive this life,
and may praise you
with all my heart.

36 Dean of the Province continues

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious
His mercy endures for ever

Father, from whom every family in heaven
and on earth takes its name,
your servant Mary Sumner revealed your goodness
in a life of tranquility and service:
grant that we who have gathered in faith around
this table may like her know the love of Christ
that surpasses knowledge and be filled with all your fullness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Father almighty
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out into the world
in the power of the Holy Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.

37 Prayer for Africa

God, bless Africa
Protect our children
Guide our leaders
Heal our communities
Restore our dignity
and give us peace
for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

Blessing Dean of the Province continues

38 May God, who gives patience and encouragement,
give you a spirit of unity,
to live in harmony as your follow Jesus Christ,
so that with one voice, you may glorify God,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

39 Notices and/or vote of thanks

40 The dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Deacon
In the name of Christ. Amen

41 Recessional hymn

1

Mine eyes have seen the glory
of the coming of the Lord.
He is trampling out the
vintage
where the grapes of wrath are
stored.
He has loosed the fateful
lighting
of his terrible swift sword.
His truth is marching on.

Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

2

I have seen him in the
watchfires
of a hundred circling camps.
They have gilded him an altar
in the evening dews and
damps.
I can read his righteous
sentence
by the dim and flaring lamps.
His day is marching on.

3

He has sounded forth the
trumpet
that shall never sound retreat.
He is sifting out all human
hearts
before his judgement seat.
O, be swift my soul to answer
him,
be jubilant my feet!
Our God is marching on.

4

In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the
sea,
with a glory in his bosom
that transfigures you and me.
As he died to make us holy,
let us live that all be free,
whilst God is marching on.

Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910)

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION
Join us, Join in

MOTHERS' UNION WORLDWIDE GATHERING 2026

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Go into all the world

Friday 2 October 2026

A4 Worship Booklet ARTWORK.indd 40 23/09/2026 09:17:22

Welcome

Today we gather as Mothers' Union from across the world, from different countries, cultures, languages and circumstances, yet united in Christ. Sisters and Brothers in Christ

We come not simply to hear what God has done in the past.

We come to listen for what God is doing now.

We come to hear the Word of God, to sing, to listen to the experience of our sisters and brothers around the world, and to allow the Holy Spirit to challenge and encourage us.

For wherever Christ is at work, there is a call to respond.

Where there is poverty, we are called to stand alongside people who are vulnerable.

Where there is violence, we are called to work for safety and peace.

Where there is injustice, we are called to speak and to act.

Where there is despair, we are called to bring hope.

And wherever Christ sends us, we are called to go.

So today we gather with open hearts.

We gather ready to listen.

We gather ready to respond.

And we gather ready to be sent.

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

All: And also with you.

Leader: We have come from many places, but we come as one family in Christ.

The Spirit of God is among us.

Let us worship God together.

Call to worship

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us.

All: We come to worship the living God.

Leader: Christ calls us to bring good news to the poor.

All: Give us hearts that are ready to serve.

Leader: Christ calls us to proclaim freedom and hope.

All: Give us courage to speak and to act.

Leader: Christ sends us to be his witnesses throughout the world.

All: Send us, Lord.

Leader: From nation to nation, from generation to generation, God calls his people.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

All: Come, let us praise his name.

OPENING HYMN / WORSHIP SONG

1

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

2

Praise him for his grace and favor
to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3

Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows!

4

Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Psalter Hymnal, (Gray)

First Reading - Isaiah 61:1–4

A reading from Isaiah
The Year of the Lord's Favour

61 The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has
anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind
up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release
from darkness for the prisoners,[a]
2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our
God, to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown
of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a
garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of
righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.
4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long
devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated
for generations.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Christ the Lord to us said:
I am wine, I am bread;
I am wine, I am bread.
Give to all who thirst and hunger,
Now he sends us all out,

strong in faith, amid doubt,
strong in faith, amid doubt.
Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona,
di thabile kaofela.
Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona,
di thabile kaofela.

TESTIMONIES

Leader: The Gospel calls us not simply to listen, but to live.

Across the world, Mothers' Union members respond to the needs of their communities through prayer, practical action, advocacy and service.

The circumstances may be different from one place to another,

but the call of Christ is the same.

We now hear testimonies from our members, sharing something of their experiences and work of Mothers' Union.

Second Reading - Luke 4:16-21

Reader: A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the
Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood
up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him.
Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:
18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom
for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed
free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
20 Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat
down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him.
21 He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your
hearing."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness,
Great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hast provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord unto me.

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside. [Refrain]

Thomas O. Chisholm (1923)

Homily

The Right Reverend Dibo Thomas-Babyngton Elango

Leader: Let us be still before God.
Let us listen for the prompting of the Holy Spirit.
Let us ask not only, "What have we heard?"
but also, "What are we being called to do?"

Response

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: The Word of God has been proclaimed.
We have heard the witness of our sisters and brothers.
We have been reminded that the Spirit equips and sends God's people.

So let us make our response.

Leader: Where there is need, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Where there is poverty, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Where there is violence, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Where there is injustice, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Where there are families who need support and hope, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Leader: Where Christ calls us to serve, send us.

All: Here we are, Lord.

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Let us pray for the world in which God has placed us.

MU PCDC:

For the Church throughout the world;
for bishops, clergy, lay leaders and all God's people;
for those who proclaim the Gospel in words and actions;
and for all who seek to make Christ known:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

MU PCDC:

For families in every nation;
for marriages and relationships under strain;
for parents and children;
for people who are separated from those they love;
and for all who need support, encouragement and hope:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

MU PCDC:

For people living in poverty;
for people without food, safe shelter, education or opportunity;
for families and individuals affected by inequality and discrimination;
and for all who work to challenge the causes of poverty and injustice:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Mothers' Union PCDC:

For all who experience violence, abuse or exploitation;
for survivors and their families;
for people and organisations who offer refuge, support and practical help;
and for everyone working to build safer homes and communities:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

MU PCDC:

For Mothers' Union in every province, diocese and community;
for every member, trustee, chaplain, volunteer and leader;
For all who pray; for all who serve; and for all who speak up for families and vulnerable people:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

MU PCDC

For all the Mothers' Union work that lies ahead;
for wisdom to recognise where God is calling us;
for courage to respond;
for creativity to meet new challenges;
and for faith to trust the Holy Spirit:

All: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Prayer of Commitment

Leader: God of mission, you have not called us simply to gather.
You have called us to go.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit.
Give us courage to speak where there is injustice.
Give us compassion where there is suffering.
Give us strength where there is violence.
Give us perseverance where poverty seems overwhelming.
Give us wisdom to strengthen families.
Give us humility to listen.
And give us faith to follow wherever you lead.
Make us willing instruments of your peace, your justice, your compassion and your love.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: As our Saviour taught us, so we pray with confidence, each in the language of our hearts:

All: 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 Sending

Leader: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us.

Christ sends us into the world to bring good news, to serve, to stand for justice and peace, and to strengthen families and communities.

As we leave this gathering, let us go where Christ calls us, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Go in the power of the Spirit.

All: We go in the name of Christ.

Leader: Go in faith, go in love, and go ready to serve.

All: Send us, Lord.

Leader: Let us go together.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn

1 – In Zulu directly below (see way to pronounce at bottom of page)

2 – In English directly below to right singing “MARCHING in the light of God)

3 – In English singing “SINGING in the light of God”

4 – In English singing “DANCING in the light of God” (feel free to dance along)

5 – In Zulu as sung in first verse

ZULU	**ENGLISH**
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos’,	We are marching in the light of God,
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos’,	We are marching in the light of God,
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos’,	We are marching in the light of God,
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos,	We are marching in the light of God
Siyahamba, hamba,	We are marching, marching,
Siyahamba, ooh, ooh!	We are marching, ooh, ooh!
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos,	We are marching in the light of God.
Siyahamba, hamba,	We are marching, marching,
Siyahamba, ooh, ooh!	We are marching, ooh, ooh!
Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos’.	We are marching in the light of God.

Blessing and Dismissal

Bishop: Go into all the world.

Go in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Go with courage.

Go with compassion.

Go with the peace of Christ.

And may the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All: Amen.

Bishop: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Blessing of the Commitment Cards

A Liturgy for the 150th Anniversary Global Gathering
of the Mothers' Union
"Lighting the Way for Generations to Come"
ICC Durban · 30 September – 3 October 2026

The Invitation

Presider: Beloved in Christ, for one hundred and fifty years the Mothers' Union has been a light kindled in the home, in the Church, and in the nations of the world. Today we do not merely remember a flame once lit; we take our place among those who tend it still.

Presider: You hold in your hands a card. Let it be more than paper. Let it be a lamp you fill today, that its light may reach the generations who are yet to come.

The Word of God

Reader: A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter five.

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Writing of the Commitment

A period of silence is kept, during which soft music or the organ may be played. Worshippers are invited to write, in their own words, one thing they will carry forward from this Anniversary — for their family, their branch, or their community.

Presider: Let us keep silence, and let each of us write what the Spirit lays upon our heart.

Silence is kept for reflection and writing.

The Presentation of the Cards

Worshippers are invited to raise their cards, or to bring them forward and place them in a basket or bowl set before the altar, as directed by the Presider.

Presider: Let us offer to God what we have written.

All : **We bring our promises before you, Lord, and we ask that you would seal them with your grace.**

The Prayer of Blessing

Presider: Let us pray.

Eternal God, whose faithfulness has carried the Mothers' Union through one hundred and fifty years of service, we thank you for Mary Sumner and for all who, in every generation, have answered your call to nurture families in faith and love.

Bless, we pray, these cards and the commitments written upon them. Let them not be words alone, but seeds planted in willing hearts. Where we have promised prayer, deepen our praying. Where we have promised service, strengthen our hands. Where we have promised love, enlarge our love, until it reaches the households of the nations.

As a flame is passed from candle to candle without losing its light, so let this commitment pass from us to our children, and from our children to theirs, until Christ himself is the light every generation walks by.

All **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Presider stands, and, extending a hand over the gathered cards and people, says:

Presider: The Lord bless these cards, and the hands that wrote upon them, and the homes to which they will return.

The Lord who has kept the Mothers' Union for one hundred and fifty years, keep you also, this day and always.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and for generations to come.

All **Amen.**

The Commissioning

Presider: Go now as bearers of the light entrusted to you.

All: **We will carry the light for the sake of families, for the sake of the Church, and for the sake of the world.**

Presider: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION
Join us, Join in

Go, Light the Way



CLOSING EUCHARIST AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE

Sending Out of the Global Gathering

Saturday, 3 October 2026

Celebrant & Preacher:
The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally,
The 106th Archbishop of Canterbury

A4 Worship Booklet ARTWORK.indd 53 23/09/2026 09:17:22

ORDER OF SERVICE

1 Introit hymn *Tune: Old Hundredth*

1

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
come ye before him and rejoice.

2

Die Heer is God, erken dat Hy
'n Eie volk vir Hom berei;
'n Volk om Hom te dien en vrees
En skape van Sy wei te wees.

3

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

4

Ngokuba yen' unomusa
Kayek' ukuhawukela
Usiphatha ngeqiniso
Elimiyo njalo njalo.

5

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom heav'n and earth adore,
from us and from the angel-host
be praise and glory evermore.

William Kethe (d. 1594) from 'Day's Psalter' (1560)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 2 (Afrikaans)

The Lord is God; acknowledge him,
who formed a people for himself—
a people called to serve and fear,
the sheep within his pasture here.

Verse 4 (isiZulu)

For he is gracious and is kind;
his mercy never fails or ends.
He deals with us in faithfulness,
which shall endure for evermore.

2 Hymn *Tune: Aurelia*

1

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation,
By water and the word:
From heaven he came and sought her
To be his holy Bride,
With his own Blood he bought her,
And for her life he died.

2

Libuthwe kulo lonke
Nokho linye njalo
Yiny' iNkosi nokholo
Muny' umbhabhathizo
Litus' igama linye
Lidla kudla kunye
Libamb' ithemba linye
Ligcwel' ubabalo.

3

Noko iŕazukile
Ngemfundis' ezimbi,
Noko ibandezelwe
Zintshaba zapandle,
Basalind' abangcwele
Ukufika kwake
U-Myeni we-Kerike,
Abatutuzele.

4

Na aarbeid en vermoeiing,
Na bange sielestryd,
Verwag sy die voltooiing
Van vreed' in ewigheid.
Waneer geloog verby is,
En uitloop op aanskou,
Wanneer die stryd volstry is,
Vind sy Gods eew'ge trou.

5

Inosangana zvino
NaMwari Mukuru,
Navariyo vatsvene
Vari kuzorora.
Tenzi, tipewo tsitsi,
Ndizvo pakuguma
Tisvike pamwe navo
Tigare kudenga.

Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 2 (isiZulu)

Gathered from every nation,
yet ever remaining one;
one Lord and one faith,
one baptism;
she blesses one holy Name,
partakes of one holy food,

holds firmly to one hope,
and is filled with grace.

Verse 3 (isiXhosa)

Though she has been divided
by false teachings,
though she has been oppressed
by enemies from without,
the saints continue watching,
awaiting the coming
of the Bridegroom of the Church,
who will comfort them.

Verse 4 (Afrikaans)

After labour and weariness,
after long spiritual struggle,
she awaits the fulfilment
of everlasting peace.

When faith has passed away
and gives way to sight,
when the battle has been
completed,
she shall know God's eternal
faithfulness.

Verse 5 (Shona)

Even now she is united
with the Almighty God
and with the saints
who are at rest.

Lord, grant us mercy,
so that at the end
we may join them
and dwell in heaven.

The Greeting

3 The Archbishop of Canterbury greets the people, saying:

The Lord be with you
And also with you

People of God, gathered from many nations, cultures and communities, we are one body in Christ.
Let us worship God in unity and joy.

4 Praise the Lord *The Synaxist continues*

Praise him you servants of the Lord

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Blessed be his Name, now and for ever

5 The Gloria in Excelsis is sung in isiZulu

Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King
almighty God and Father
we worship you, we give you
thanks, we praise you for your
glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father
Lord God, Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world:

receive our prayer.
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right
hand of the Father:

For you alone are the Holy One
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in
the glory of God the Father. Amen

Makudunyiswe uNkulunkulu
ophezulu kubekhona ukuthula
kubantu bakhe abasemhlabeni.
Nkosi Nkulunkulu, Nkosi
yasezulwini, Somandla Nkulunkulu
onguBaba, siyakudumisa,
sikubonga,
sikubabaza ngenkazimulo yakho

Nkosi Jesu Khristu,
Ndodana eyodwa kaYise
Nkosi Nkulunkulu, Mvana
kaNkulunkulu,
wena osusa izono zomhlaba:

yemukela ukukhuleka kwethu.
sihawukele;
wena ohlezi ngasekunene kuka
Yise:

Ngokuba nguwe wedwa
ongoNgcwele
nguwe wedwa oyiNkosi
nguwe wedwa ongoPhezukonke
Jesu Khristu, okanye noMoya
oNgcwele, enkazimulweni
kaNkulunkulu uYise. Amen

6 Let us pray

Almighty God to whom all hearts are open
all desires known
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord.

7 The Kyrie is sung in isiZulu

Lord, have mercy	Nkosi, sihawukele
Christ, have mercy	Khristu, sihawukele
Lord, have mercy	Nkosi, sihawukele

The Penitence

The Synaxist continues

8 Jesus said, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

9 Let us confess our sins

Silence

Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess
that we have sinned against you
through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed
and in what we have left undone.

For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your Name.

10 The Archbishop of Canterbury stands and says

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you; pardon your sins and set you free from them; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

11 The Archbishop of Canterbury prays

Lord we give thanks for the life of Mary Sumner,
for her obedience to your calling,
for her vision for the Mothers' Union.
We pray that through the grace of your Holy Spirit
we may receive renewed confidence
and share that vision.
We give you thanks and praise
for the many people around the world
who reach out in the name of the Mothers' Union,
through our work may we touch the lives of those we meet,
that they too may know your love:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Word of God

12 A reading from Job 42:1-6, 12-17

2 ‘I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of
yours can be thwarted. 3 “Who is this that hides counsel without
knowledge?” Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 4 “Hear, and I will
speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.” 5 I had heard of
you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; 6 therefore
I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.’ 12 The Lord blessed
the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen
thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and
a thousand donkeys. 13 He also had seven sons and three daughters.
14 He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third
Keren-happuch. 15 In all the land there were no women so beautiful
as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance
along with their brothers. 16 After this Job lived for one hundred and
forty years, and saw his children, and his children’s children, four
generations. 17 And Job died, old and full of days.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

13 We shall say Psalm 119:169-176 together *The Synaxist continues*

169 Let my cry come to you, O Lord:
O give me understanding, according to your word.
170 Let my supplication come before you:
and deliver me according to your promise.
171 My lips shall pour forth your praise:
because you teach me your statutes;
172 My tongue shall sing of your word:
for all your commandments are righteousness.
173 Let your hand be swift to help me:
for I have chosen your precepts.
174 Lord, I have longed for your salvation:
and your law is my delight.
175 O let my soul live, that I may praise you:
and let your judgements be my help.
176 I have gone astray like a sheep that is lost:
O seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

Glory to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning: is now and will be for ever. Amen

14 The Gradual hymn *Tune: Rockingham*

1

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2

Bonang Tlhogo, le Diatla,
Le Dinao, di boneng!
Di thlanetšwe go mpoloka,
Le go nkisa botshelong.

3

Vir al my skuld het hy betaal;
Vir my in helle-angs gedaal.
Sy kruis, sy liefde onbegrens,
Ontsluit in my 'n nuwe mens.

4

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 2 (Setswana)

Behold his head, his hands,
and his feet—look upon them!
They were pierced to save me
and to bring me into life.

Verse 3 (Afrikaans)

For all my sin he paid the price;
for me he faced the anguish of hell.
His cross, his love without limit,
awakens a new person within me.

The Gospel

15 Listen to the Good News proclaimed

in the Gospel according to Luke 10:17-24
Glory to Christ our Saviour

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, in your name even the
demons submit to us!’ 18 He said to them, ‘I watched Satan fall from
heaven like a flash of lightning. 19 See, I have given you authority to
tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy;
and nothing will hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that
the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written
in heaven.’ 21 At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit
and said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because
you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent
and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your
gracious will. 22 All things have been handed over to me by my
Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who
the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses
to reveal him.’ 23 Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them
privately, ‘Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! 24 For I tell you
that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did
not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.’

This is the Gospel of Christ
Praise to Christ our Lord

16 Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God
the Father, the Almighty
maker of heaven and earth
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ
the only Son of God
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light
true God from true God
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord
the giver of life
who proceeds from the Father and the Son
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen

17 The Sermon by The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury

18 The Prayers of the Church

Loving and faithful God, we thank you for 150 years of Mothers' Union: for the vision of Mary Sumner; for every prayer offered, every life touched, every family strengthened, and every act of loving service undertaken in your name. Through every generation and in every nation, you have been our refuge, strength and guide. For all that has been, we thank you; for all that is to come, we trust you.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of hope, we thank you for this Global Gathering: for stories that have inspired us, friendships that have strengthened us, worship that has renewed us, and the Bread of Life that has sustained us. As we return to our nations, provinces, dioceses and communities, renew our calling, refresh our vision and strengthen us for the journey ahead.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious God, bless Kathleen, our Worldwide President; the Worldwide Board of Trustees; the staff of the central charity; and all who lead and serve Mothers' Union. Grant them wisdom, courage, compassion, resilience and joy.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of justice, commission us afresh to stand with those affected by gender-based violence; to protect children and vulnerable adults; to oppose modern slavery and human trafficking; and to confront racism, prejudice and every form of exploitation. May our words proclaim truth, our actions bring healing and our presence awaken hope.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of peace, remember all who live amid conflict, violence and fear; those displaced from their homes; those who mourn; and all who long for safety and freedom. Guide the nations in justice and reconciliation. Make us instruments of your peace and witnesses to your reconciling love.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of every generation, as this Gathering ends, keep Mothers' Union rooted in Christ, united in prayer and steadfast in service. Nourished with Bread for the Journey, send us out in the power of your Spirit to carry Christ's light into the world, transforming families and communities and proclaiming your hope for generations to come.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The Commissioning

19 *The Archbishop of Canterbury says:*

Members and friends of Mothers' Union, God has gathered us from across the world, fed us with the Bread of Life and renewed us through prayer, worship and fellowship.

Will you go from this Global Gathering to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in your words and through your lives?
With God's help, we will.

Will you continue steadfastly in prayer, strengthen families and relationships and serve those who are vulnerable, marginalised or forgotten?
With God's help, we will.

Will you seek justice, challenge violence and oppression, work for reconciliation and uphold the God-given dignity of every person?
With God's help, we will.

Will you share the hope you have received, nurture the generations that follow and carry forward the mission of Mothers' Union with faith, courage and love?
With God's help, we will.

Will you go forth as one worldwide fellowship, rooted in Christ, united in prayer and empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God's world?
With God's help, we will.

20 *The Archbishop of Canterbury says:*

God of the journey,
commission and send forth these your people.
May their hands be ready to serve,
their hearts be open to love,
their voices be courageous for justice
and their lives shine with the light of Christ.

Go now, carrying Bread for the Journey.
Go in faith to strengthen families.
Go in love to serve your communities.
Go in hope to transform the world.
Go, light the way for generations.

Here we are, Lord. Send us.
By your grace, we will go. **Amen**

21 The Archbishop of Canterbury says:

Merciful Father, accept these prayers and send us out renewed in faith, strengthened in hope and united in love; for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

22 The greeting of peace

We are the Body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Peace be with you

23 Offertory hymn *Tune: 8.7.8.7.D.*

1

Joko ya hao e bo bebe
E nkgatholola pelo
Tumelo ho nna ke thebe
Etla mphemisa lefu
Nyakallo ke e fumane
Tseleng ya hao Morena
Dira ho nna di qhalane
Ke hloletswe kw wena

2

O re ho'na ke lelale
Ke tshephe lehodimo
Moeti ha a kgathale
O pepjwa ke Modimo
Efela o dutse jwale
E sa le o nthatile
O mphodisitse matswalo
'Me jwale ke thabile

3

Ha ke hlahelwa ke dillo
O ntekola ka mosa
O ntlela ka di polelo
Tse phakisang ho nthusa
Ha ke re: ke mofutsana
O re: Che, o'na lenna
Ha ke re: Kgoro ya hana
O re, che, o tla kena

4

Ho tla ba jwang ha ke siya
Kobo ena e bolang
Ke be jwalo ka Eliya
Ka koloi e fofang?
Ke tla opa ka diatla
Ke tla re: Haleluya
Halleluya ho senatla
Se nkenyang ho Jehova.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – Sesotho

Verse 1

Your yoke is light and gentle;
it brings relief to my heart.
Faith is a shield to me
and will protect me from death.
I have found true joy
upon your path, O Lord.
My enemies scatter before me;
I am overwhelmed by you.

Verse 2

You call me to look upwards
and to place my hope in heaven.
The traveller does not grow weary,
for God carries them along.
You have remained the same
ever since you first loved me.
You have healed me of my fears,
and now my heart is glad.

Verse 3

Whenever sorrow comes upon me,
you look upon me with compassion.
You come to me with words
that quickly bring me help.
When I say, “I am forsaken,”
you say, “No, you are with me.”
When I say, “The gate refuses me,”
you say, “No, you shall enter.”

Verse 4

What joy there will be when I leave
this mortal garment that decays,
and become like Elijah,
borne away in a flying chariot!
I shall clap my hands
and cry aloud, “Alleluia!”
Alleluia to the mighty One
who brings me home to God.

24 Offertory hymn *Tune: Cwm Rhondda*

Version: Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

1

Peregrino, do deserto,
Guia os passos meus Jeová
Fraco sou, mas Tu és forte
Tua mão me susterá
Pão da vida, pão da vida
Nutre me com teu amor,
Nutre me com teu amor.

2

Abre a fonte, cristalina
Vivo manancial sem par.
Onde possa, toda a mancha,
Do meu coração lavar.
Jeová sê minha força
Minha força e protecção,
Minha força e protecção.

3

Livra me de todo o medo,
Junto às águas do Jordão.
Triunfante, faz que avance,
Para o monte de Sião.
Onde cante, onde cante
Em louvor e gratidão,
Em louvor e gratidão.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – Portuguese

Verse 1

As a pilgrim through the desert,
guide my footsteps, O Jehovah.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
your strong hand will sustain me.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
feed me with your gracious love;
feed me with your gracious love.

Verse 2

Open now the crystal fountain,
living spring beyond compare,
where each stain may be washed
away and my heart be cleansed
and healed.
O Jehovah, be my strength,
be my strength and my protection;
be my strength and my protection.

Verse 3

Free me from all fear and
trembling
as I reach the Jordan's waters.
Lead me onwards in your triumph
towards the holy hill of Zion,
where I shall sing, where I shall
sing songs of praise and gratitude;
songs of praise and gratitude.

25 Prayer for alms and other gifts for the church

Yours Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. **Amen**

26 At the taking of the bread and wine

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation.
Blessed be God for ever

The Second Eucharistic Prayer

The Archbishop of Canterbury continues

27 The Lord is here
His spirit is with us

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give him thanks and praise

28 It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places, to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord;

For he is your living Word, through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born as man and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

28 Proper preface

And now we give you thanks because today you have gathered us together at this eucharistic feast, so that we may be renewed in love, joy and peace.

29 Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious Name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please be seated or kneel

30 Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

Who in the same night that he was betrayed took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me'

31 So we proclaim the mystery of faith

Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again

32 Therefore heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, and proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension. As we look for his coming in glory, we celebrate with this bread and this cup his one perfect sacrifice.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen

31 As Christ has taught us we are bold to pray

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

32 The bread which we break
is it not a sharing of the body of Christ?
We, who are many, are one body
for we all partake of the one bread

33 **We do not presume**
to come to this your table, merciful Lord
trusting in our own righteousness
but in your manifold and great mercies,
we are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs
under your table
but you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood
that we may evermore dwell in him
and he in us.

34 Draw near and receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

35 The Agnus Dei is sung in isiZulu

Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world:
grant us Your peace.

Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
sihawukele.
Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
sihawukele.
Mvana kaNkulunkulu
esusa izono zomhlaba:
siphe ukuthula.

36 Communion hymn Tune: HYFRODOL

1

Aliluya! Nguwe, Yesu,
Oli-Tshawe, oyi-Nkosi;
Aliluya! Wena wedwe
Woyisile u-Satan:
Amaculo e-Tsiyone
Avakala ngokuti,
“Usitenge ezizweni,
Yesu, nge-Gazi lako.”

2

Jesu Kreste ke Molimo,
Ke Morena ea mohau;
Khale-khale o etetse
Batho ba lutseng fifing
O n’a rongoe ke Ntat’ ae,
A tle koano lefatseng;
Ka sephiri se seholo
O hlahile Bethlehem.

3

Areruya! Tenzi ndiwe
Chingwa chengirosi.
Areruya! Kudya kwedu
Toswendera petyo;
Tikumbirire M’ponisi
Une simba rese,
Apo vanoyera vese
Vari kutunhidza.

4

Alleluia! King eternal,
Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth Thy footstool, Heav’n Thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both priest and victim
in the Eucharistic feast.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – Portuguese

Verse 1 (isiXhosa)

Alleluia! You are Jesus,
the Champion and the King;
Alleluia! You alone
have conquered Satan.
The songs of Zion
are heard proclaiming:
“You have redeemed us from the nations,
Jesus, by your precious Blood.”

Verse 2 (Sesotho)

Jesus Christ is God;
he is the gracious Lord.
Long ago he visited
those who dwelt in darkness.
He was sent by his Father
to come into this world;
through a wondrous mystery
he was born in Bethlehem.

Verse 3 (Shona)

Alleluia! Lord, you are
the Bread of angels.
Alleluia! As we draw near
to receive our sacred food,
intercede for us, O Saviour,
you who have almighty power,
where all the saints together
offer everlasting praise.

37 Communion hymn *Tune: ROCKINGHAM or VENI CREATOR*

1

Usibonisa uthando ngokusipha lokhukudla
Mabeze bonke abantu bezw’ ukuthi unomusa.

2

UJes’ usinik’ uMzimba usinik’ iGazi lakhe
Wobusiswa omukela lokh’ ukudla okuNgcwele.

3

Kuyize konke lokho na? Bakhon’ abanqab’ ukuza
UJesu wafela nabo bayabizwa nabo badle.

4

Mabeze laph’ abaningi bamkeliswe bajabule
Basinda abadla kahle njengalokhu bathenjiswa.

5

UNkulunkul’ onguYise neNdodana nay’ uMoya
Kadunyiswe emhlabeni naphezulu njalo njalo. Amen

ENGLISH TRANSLATION – isiZulu

Verse 1

You reveal your love for us by giving us this food.
Let all people come and know that you are gracious.

Verse 2

Jesus gives us his Body and gives us his Blood.
Blessed are those who receive this holy food.

Verse 3

Is all this offered in vain? Some still refuse to come.
Jesus died for them as well; they too are called to eat.

Verse 4

Let many people come here, receive this gift and rejoice.
Those who partake worthily are saved, just as they have been promised.

Verse 5

To God, who is the Father, and to the Son and Holy Spirit,
be glory on earth and in heaven, now and for ever. Amen

38 Communion hymn *Tune: Picardy*

1

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God on earth
descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

2

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.

3

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the day,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

4

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim, with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord most high.

Liturgy of St James trans. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885).

39 *The Archbishop of Canterbury continues*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious
His mercy endures for ever

Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name,
your servant Mary Sumner revealed your goodness
in a life of tranquility and service:
grant that we who have gathered in faith around
this table may like her know the love of Christ
that surpasses knowledge and be filled with all your fullness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Father almighty
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out into the world
in the power of the Holy Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.

40 Prayer for Africa

God, bless Africa
Protect our children
Guide our leaders
Heal our communities
Restore our dignity
and give us peace
for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen

Commissioning

41 May God, who gives patience and encouragement,
give you a spirit of unity,
to live in harmony as your follow Jesus Christ,
so that with one voice, you may glorify God,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

42 Notices and/or vote of thanks

43 The dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen

44 Recessional hymn *Tune: Woodlands*

1

Go forth and tell!
O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news
to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus,
Saviour, Lord and King,
that all the world
his worthy praise may sing.

2

Go forth and tell!
God's love embraces all:
he will in grace
respond to all who call;
how shall they call
if they have never heard
the gracious invitation
of his word?

3

Go forth and tell!
where still the darkness lies;
in wealth or want,
the sinner surely dies:
give us, O Lord,
concern of heart and mind,
a love like yours
which cares for humankind.

4

Go forth and tell!
the doors are open wide;
share God's good gifts –
let no-one be denied;
live out your life
as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed pow'rs
for his sole glory use.

5

Go forth and tell!
O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength
which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations
his great name adore
and serve him, Lord and King,
for evermore.

Attributed to: R. Keen (1787); K. (1787); : George Keith (1787)

45 Recessional hymn *Tune: Maccabeus*

1

Thine be the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Thine be the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son,
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won.

2

Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let the Church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth;
death hast lost its sting.

3

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of Life;
life is naught without thee:
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conqu'rors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above.

Edmund Louis Budry (1854-1932) trans. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)