

LITURGY FOR CELEBRATING  
**CHILDREN'S  
MINISTRY SUNDAY**

Children are a blessing and a gift from the Lord  
~ Psalm 127:3



COMPILED BY  
ANGLICAN YOUTH OF  
SOUTHERN AFRICA

## **PROCESSION**

Sunday school children

**Processional chorus:**

## **WELCOME**

**Presider:** We gather to worship God, who created each and every child in God's own image. We gather in the name of Christ, who welcomed and blessed the children. We gather empowered by the Holy Spirit, who moves in and among us, as we work for justice. Come let us worship God.

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

**All: And also with you**

## **COLLECT OF PURITY**

**Synaxis :** Let us pray

**Almighty God to whom all hearts are open all, 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.**

**Synaxis :** Lord have mercy

**Synaxis:** Let us confess our sins – we bring before God all the things we have said, thought and done that was wrong.

**All: Almighty God, we are truly sorry, and we ask you to forgive us and help us to do always what is right.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

**Presider:** God of love, you are always ready to forgive. We thank you for your forgiveness, in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Amen

**Chorus :** Jesus loves the little Children

**Presider : For Young People**

Father of everlasting compassion you see your children growing up in an uncertain world. Show them the path of life, enable them to triumph over failure and frustrations to hold fast their Faith in you and to keep alive their joy in your creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading :** Daniel 10:11-12

**Psalm 8**

(for children)- from let's say a Psalm by Silvia Purdie

**God, our living God,**

**You are amazing!**

**You are higher than I can look**

**You are wider than I can see.**

But I can hear you- Listen!  
We can hear you in the laughter of a little Child,  
We can hear you in the babbling of a baby,  
You don't need words to tell us of your Power,

Why do you need us at all?  
We are so small, and the world is so big,  
The stars are so many, and space is so enormous.

**God, our living God, you are amazing!  
You made everything.  
Why do I matter?**

But we do matter!  
God cares for us most of all, and through  
Us God cares for all the world.

You put everything into our care,  
All the animals, all the birds, and all of the fish,  
Everything that creeps or flies or runs or swims, even the land and the air and the sea.

**It is all ours to look after.  
God, our living God, you are amazing!**

**Second Reading** : Ephesians 4: 29-32

**Gradual Chorus**

**Gospel Reading** : Mark 6: 49-50

**Homily**

## **CHILDREN'S CREED**

I believe in God , the Father  
I believe in Jesus, God's Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit  
Father, Son and the Holy Spirit  
We Praise you!

## **PRAYERS**

**For Sunday school teachers**

Lord, inspire more leaders to step forward and teach the next generation how to lead and love others in your name. Strengthen and equip them to show your love to the precious children in their communities.

**For children**

Lord God, we praise you that you are fully in control of all things. We pray that You protect our children. Keep them healthy and help them to thrive. We thank you that you know every hair on their head, you know exactly when they rise and when they fall. Watch over our children in every area of their life and keep them safe we pray.

#### **For parents and caretakers**

Strengthen them in mind and body. Provide for their needs. Let them continue walking with you in grace and growing in Your wisdom. You have blessed them with the joy and care of children, may children experience security, peace and purpose through them.

**Amen!**

### **PEACE**

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Peace be with you.**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**Offertory Choruses :**

#### **Prayer for Presentation of Gifts**

Faithful Father, thank you for the gifts of eternal life. Everything we have is a gift from you. We bring our offerings to you from the abundant blessings you have given us. May our gifts be acceptable in your sight; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen!**

### **EUCCHARIST PRAYER**

**Celebrant :** The Lord be with you

**All :** And also with you

**Celebrant :** Lift up your hearts

**All :** We lift them to the Lord

**Celebrant :** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**All :** It is right to give him thanks and praise

**Celebrant :** Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

**All :** We give thanks and praise for all that God has done for us

**Celebrant :** God the Father created the Heavens, the earth and everything in them : created us in his own image

**All :** Let us give Him thanks and praise

**Celebrant :** Christ our Lord became human like us and died to save us.

**All : Let us give Him thanks and praise**

**Celebrant** : God sent the Holy spirit to gather us together as the people of God.

**All : Let us give Him thanks and praise**

**Celebrant** : So come, let us join together to worship this God who loves us

**All : 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.**

**Celebrant** : 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

**Celebrant** : We praise you that before he suffered and died, our saviour gave us this holy meal to Share and told us to continue it until he comes again.

**All : Why do we eat bread together at this table ?**

**Celebrant** : On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: " Take, eat.....this is my body this in remembrance of me."

**All : Why do we drink from the cup together at this table?**

**Celebrant** : in the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup saying: " This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood....poured out for the you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

**All : What do we remember at this table?**

**Celebrant** : We remember the Father's gracious love for us, Christ's death and resurrection for us and the spirits tender care for us. So let us proclaim the mystery of faith

**All : Christ has died, Christ is risen , Christ will come again.**

**Celebrant** : In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup.

We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy spirit.

Lord, remember your church throughout the world; make us grow in love, together with *N* our bishop, and all the departed into the light of your presence.

Have mercy on us all; make us worthy to share eternal life with Mary, the virgin mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done your will throughout the ages.

May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all the glory and honour is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**

**The Lord's prayer**

**Our father in heaven hallowed be your Name**

**Your kingdom come**

**Your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us our daily bread. Forgive us our sins**

**As we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial**

**And deliver us from evil.**

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

**Celebrant** : Merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and these gifts of bread and wine. In eating and drinking together may we be made one with Christ and one another.

**All** : Amen!

#### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**Celebrant** : The bread which we break is it not a sharing of the body of Christ?

**All** : We who are many, are one body for we all partake of the one bread.

**Jesus, Lamb of God** : have mercy on us.

**Jesus, bearer of sins**: have mercy on us.

**Jesus, redeemer of the world**: give us peace

#### **THE COMMUNION**

**We do not presume to come to 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.**

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.

#### **COMMUNION CHORUSES**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYERS**

**Celebrant** : Eternal God, comfort of the hurt and healer of the broken you have fed us at the table of life and hope. Teach us the way of gentleness and peace, and make us the ministers of your compassion; that all the world may acknowledge the reign of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**All** : **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.**

#### **Prayer for Africa**

God bless Africa  
Protect our Children  
Transform our leaders  
Heal our communities

Restore our dignity  
And give us peace  
For Jesus Christ's sake

Amen !

### **BLESSINGS**

Go forth knowing that you are a precious child of God. Go forth to cherish every child of God. Go Forth to protect and seek justice for children, and the communion of the spirit whom Jesus called the Advocate, be with you and every child of God, this day forth and forever more. Amen!

### **RECESSION CHORUS**

He's got the whole world in his hands/ Morena utlwa dithapelo tsa bana haba bua le wena.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PROVINCIAL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OFFICER**

To the children of the Anglican community, life is not easy, you will fall into many traps of life but please do not allow it to happen, pray at all times and God will hear and respond. Enjoy the fruits of life and always listen to your parents/caretakers when they teach you about life. You are the future of this country and we want to see you prosper and achieve bigger things. Roar young lions.

~ Nthabeleng Lesitsi

Thank you !!! God is good, all the time