

HYMN: *Tell out, my soul*

OPENING PRAYER:

Father God,

Open our ears.... so that we may hear your voice.

Open our eyesso that we may see your face

Open our hearts.....so that we might turn to you

Grant us understanding where there is confusion,

insight where there is mystery,

and wisdom where there is dullness of mind.

Amen

Isaiah 1.1 & 6.1-13

John 12.37-46 (Leader)

Leader:

Let us pray:

Open our eyes Lord, and soften and stir our hearts,

that we may see your glory as we reach out to those

who do not know you;

to those who live in fear of the Pharisees amongst us.

Help us, Lord, to be your witnesses,

proclaiming the Good News and building your Kingdom here.

Amen.

HYMN: *I, the Lord of sea and sky*

Isaiah 40.1-5,25-31

Mark 1.1-11 (Leader)

Leader:

Let us picture that scene at the River Jordan where hundreds and thousands gathered to hear God speak through John ... to confess their sin ...and receive the Baptism of repentance as John fully immersed them in the river.

Allow yourself to sense ... to experience ... the flowing gentle waters of the Jordan wash over you, as you confess your sins in the quietness of your heart to our loving Heavenly Father.

[pause]

Father God, now baptize us with your Holy Spirit, we pray.

Amen.

HYMN: *Be still*

Isaiah 61.1-11

Luke 4.14-21 (Leader)

Leader:

Let us pray:

*Empower us, Lord, with your Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News
at our places of work,
our places of leisure
and in our communities.*

Father God,

take from us any spirit of heaviness,

any spirit of fear,

and clothe us with the spirit of praise, we pray.

Amen

HYMN: *There is a Redeemer*

Isaiah 52.13-53.12

Leader:

Father God,

help us to fully understand what Jesus did for us on the cross.

Help us to fully understand the pain Jesus bore for us ... suffered instead of us.

*Help us to grasp the fullness of the truth that by his wounds we are healed,
that we can claim that truth and be healed:*

physically ... mentally ... emotionallyand spiritually,

as we offer up our lives to Jesus -

inviting him to be our Lord and Saviour.

Amen

Acts 8.26-40 (Leader)

Leader:

Lord God,

*we long to be sensitive and obedient to your Holy Spirit like Philip, to tell the
Good News to the people in our community.*

*We pray that the power and fire of your Holy Spirit would fall on our Diocese
... our Deanery ... our Parishes ... our homes.*

We ask this in the precious name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

HYMN: *Servant King*

Isaiah 60.1-3,15-22

Romans 15.7-13 (Leader)

CLOSING PRAYER:

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: Whom shall I send?

And I said: "Here am I. Send me!"

Father God,

as we leave here tonight and place our hope and trust in you,

renew our strength so that we may soar on wings like eagles;

and clothe us Lord, we pray, with a garment of praise instead of a spirit of heaviness;

so that we may proclaim the Good News to the people of the villages ... the towns ... and the cities of the Diocese,

in the power of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN: *I Cannot Tell*

BLESSING:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,

so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen