



GARROWBYBENEFICE

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Service of the Word**

Welcome

Introduction

Opening Prayer

Lord, you invite us to abide in you who are the vine dresser who cares for us with love. You call on us to see the beauty of each branch united to the vine, the beauty of each person. And yet, too often the differences in others make us afraid. We withdraw into ourselves. Our trust in you and in one another is lost. Come and direct our hearts toward you once again. That as one family we may praise your name.

All Amen

Hymn: Come down O love divine

Litany of Praise

We sing your praise in the midst of the world and among all peoples. We sing your praise in the midst of creation and among all creatures.

All You who call us to praise in the midst of the earth: glory to you

We sing your praise among suffering and tears. We sing your praise among promises and achievements.

All You who call us to praise in the midst of the earth: glory to you

We sing your praise in the places of conflict and misunderstanding. We sing your praise in the places of encounter and reconciliation.

All You who call us to praise in the midst of the earth: glory to you

We sing your praise in the midst of rifts and divisions. We sing your praise in the midst of life and death, the birth of a new heaven and a new earth

All You who call us to praise in the midst of the earth: glory to you

Confession

There is one body and one Spirit and one hope of our calling
Lord have mercy

All Lord have mercy

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism
Christ have mercy

All Christ have mercy

There is one God and Father of us all, above all and through all and in all
Lord have mercy

All Lord have mercy

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another, in thought, word and deed. We are truly sorry for our lack of understanding and love. We repent of our narrow-mindedness, of our bitterness and our prejudices. Pardon and forgive us, save and renew us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen

Almighty God who forgives and renews, grant you pardon and peace. Amen

Collect

Heavenly Father, you have called us in the body of your son Jesus Christ to continue His work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world. Forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fears and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will, through Jesus Christ you Son our Lord.

All Amen

Hymn: We are one in the Spirit

Ministry of the Word

A reading from 1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know

fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

This is the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 15 1-17

All Glory to you O Lord

‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the gospel of the Lord

All Praise to you O Christ

Sermon

Hymn: Jesus Christ is waiting

Intercessions *(ending with the Lord's Prayer)*

All Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in 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.

Act of Commitment

At the centre of the world is God in whom all our desires and longings find their meeting place. As we move closer to God, so we draw closer to one another. And the closer we come to one another

All **The closer we come to God**

Will you pray and work that God may reign?

All **With God's help we will**

Throughout your day, will you let the word of God breathe life into your work and play and rest?

All **With God's help we will**

Will you maintain inner peace in all things so as to dwell in Christ?

All **With God's help we will**

Closing prayer

Eternal God and Father whose Son at supper prayed that his disciples might be one, as he is one with you: draw us closer to him, that in common love and obedience to you we may be united to one another in the fellowship of the one Spirit, that the world may believe that he is Lord to your eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Blessing

The Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, teach you to walk in his way more trustfully, to accept his truth more faithfully and to share his life more lovingly; that by the power of the Holy Spirit, you may come as one family to the kingdom of the Father and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you, your homes and whom you love, now and always.

All Amen

Hymn: Wonderful merciful saviour