# Alternative Liturgical Texts

**The prayer of St Teresa**

Christ has no body now on earth but yours,

no hands but yours,

no feet but yours;

yours are the eyes through which to look at Christ’s compassion to the world,

yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good,

and yours are the hands, with which he is to bless us now.

*St Teresa of Avila*

**Invitations to Confession**

‘I set no store by life:

I only want to finish the race and complete the task

that the Lord has assigned to me,

of bearing witness to the gospel of God’s grace.’

Let us confess our failure to live up to our calling.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

God has called us to follow Christ,

and has formed us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation,

to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us

out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Let us confess the times when we have failed to heed this call.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Kyrie Confessions**

Lord Jesus, you said to your disciples:

‘You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.’

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we know that the harvest is plentiful

but the labourers are few.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you appointed us to go and bear fruit that will last.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

Let us confess that we have failed to heed the call of Christ upon our lives.

You call us to be your people in the world:

you have no body now on earth but ours.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

You have no hands but ours,

no feet but ours.

Christ, have mercy

**Christ, have mercy.**

You call us to be your people in the world:

you have no body now on earth but ours.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Collects**

Let us pray for the ministry of the whole people of God.

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father, Lord of all the world,

through your Son you have called us into the fellowship

of your universal Church:

hear our prayer for your faithful people

that in their vocation and ministry

each may be an instrument of your love,

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

*Common Worship (adapted)*

Almighty and everlasting God,

by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church

is governed and sanctified:

hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,

that in their vocation and ministry

they may serve you in holiness and truth

to the glory of your name;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

Almighty God,

you have entrusted to your Church

a share in the ministry of your Son our great high priest:

inspire by your Holy Spirit the hearts of many

to offer themselves for the ministry of your Church,

that strengthened by his power,

they may work for the increase of your kingdom

and set forward the eternal praise of your name;

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 for ever.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Gospel Acclamations**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go out into the whole world

and make disciples of all the nations.

**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 28.19 - Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever wishes to become great among you must be

your servant,

and whoever wishes to be first among you must be

the servant of all.

**Alleluia.**

*Adapted from Common Worship: Daily Prayer*

**Intercessions**

Lord God and Father of all,

over all and in all and through all:

we give thanks that we are called to your service;

may all your people may be attentive and obedient to your calling.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all, we give thanks that you call some to be apostles, sent out to do your

work.

We pray for all who respond to this calling to serve in your name:

for those immersed in the world, seeking to bear witness to the gospel in word

and action,

for those whose service takes them to places where they face opposition and

difficulty,

may they be continually filled with your Spirit, and empowered to follow your calling.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all, we give thanks that you call some to be prophets.

We pray for all whom you have called to speak out and proclaim the values of your

kingdom:

for those who challenge injustice and apathy and untruth,

for those who campaign for the well-being of your people and your world

may they be continually filled with your vision, and have courage in their prophetic

calling.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all, we give thanks that you call some to be evangelists.

We pray for all whom you have called to share the message of your love:

for those who communicate the good news of Christ to others from a variety of

backgrounds,

for those whose enthusiasm and love conveys your truth,

may they be filled with your love as they share the good news with others.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all, we give thanks that you call some to be pastors.

We pray for all whom you have called to care for others through prayer and

through service:

for those who take care of any who are young or old, who are sick or struggling,

for those whose work supports medical, social and community services,

may their lives be channels of your love and grace.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all, we give thanks that you call some to be teachers.

We pray for all whom you have called to encourage adults and children to learn and

grow:

for those who teach informally as parents, mentors and facilitators,

for workers in schools, colleges and universities, and for those who teach in our

churches

may they speak your truth, and help others to grow in wisdom.

Lord, hear your people

**and answer our prayers.**

Lord of all,

you have called each of us to serve you

in your world and in your Church;

strengthen and equip us by your Spirit

to recognise your call to us,

and give us grace and courage to fulfil that calling.,

through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen.**

**Introduction to the peace**

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

We belong to him through faith,

**heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.**

**Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Heavenly Father,

as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine,

bless also the gift of our hearts and minds

as we offer our lives in your service;

for Jesus Christ’s sake.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Short Preface**

And now we give you thanks

because Christ came not to be served but to serve,

and to give his life as a ransom for many.

He calls his faithful servants

to lead your holy people in love,

nourishing them by your word and sacraments.

Therefore …

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Extended Preface**

*(for use with Eucharistic Prayers A, B or E)*

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation,

always and everywhere to give you thanks

through your servant Jesus Christ our Lord.

At his baptism he was revealed as your beloved Son

and coming among us as one who serves,

he taught that they are greatest in your kingdom

who make themselves least and the servants of all.

Although he was their teacher and their Lord,

he washed the feet of his disciples,

and commanded us to do the same.

*Cont….*

Through your Holy Spirit you bestow upon your people

a rich diversity of gifts and ministries,

and from this royal priesthood

you raise up men and women to proclaim your word,

to care for your people

and to be the stewards of the mysteries of Christ.

You call them to serve the world your Son redeemed

and build up his body, the Church,

to the greater glory of your name.

And so with angels and archangels

and all the heavenly host,

we proclaim your glory

and join their unending hymn of praise:

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Post Communion Prayers**

Heavenly Father,

whose ascended Son gave gifts of leadership and service to the Church:

strengthen us who have received this holy food

to be good stewards of your manifold grace;

through him who came not to be served but to serve,

and give his life as a ransom for many,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

Lord of the harvest,

you have fed your people in this sacrament

with the fruits of creation made holy by your Spirit:

by your grace raise up among us faithful labourers

to sow your word and reap the harvest of souls;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Act of Commitment**

Christ, you call us.

**Help us respond to your call.**

Christ, you call us to be your people in the world.

We will follow your call to be our people:

our hands will do your work,

our feet will walk your way.

Christ, you call us.

**Help us respond to your call.**

Christ, you call each one to be your child for the world.

may our hearts search for your truth,

may our souls listen for your voice,

may our lives follow in your path.

Christ, you call each one of us.

**Help us respond to your call.**

Christ, you call us to be your people in the world.

**We are the body of Christ.**

*The Archbishops’ Council 2007*

**Blessing of Light**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

to you be praise and glory for ever!

From the rising of the sun to its setting

your name is proclaimed in all the world.

You gave Christ as a light to the nations,

and through the anointing of his Spirit

you established us as a royal priesthood.

As you call us into his marvellous light,

may our lives bear witness to his truth

and our lips never cease to proclaim your praise,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Adapted from Celebrating Common Prayer*

**Blessing**

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,

may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,

may the gifts of the Spirit equip you

to serve and worship God;

and the blessing …

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons*

**Acclamation**

There are varieties of gifts,

**but the same spirit.**

There are varieties of service,

**but the same Lord.**

There are different kinds of working,

**but the same God is at work in all.**

There is one body, one Spirit, one hope in God’s call;

**one Lord, one faith, one baptism.**

There is one God, Father of all, over all and in all,

**to whom Christ ascended on high.**

And through his Spirit he gives us gifts:

**some are apostles, some are his prophets;**

evangelists, pastors and teachers he gives us,

**so that we can minister together**

to build up his body,

**to be mature in the fullness of Christ.**

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons - cf 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4*

**Ending**

Eternal Giver of love and life,

your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world

to preach the gospel of his kingdom.

Confirm us in this mission,

and help us to live the good news we proclaim,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*New Patterns for Worship*