

# Suggested Liturgy for Cross of Nails Sunday Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019

•Healing the wounds of history • Leaning to live with difference  
and celebrate diversity • Building a culture of peace

*This is intended as a guide only – please feel free to adapt according to  
the customs of your church, congregation and worship.*

- **Gathering**

- **Confession: the Litany of Reconciliation**

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,  
**Father, forgive.**

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,  
**Father, forgive.**

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,  
**Father, forgive.**

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,  
**Father, forgive.**

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,  
**Father, forgive.**

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,  
**Father, forgive.**

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,  
**Father, forgive.**

**Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another,  
as God in Christ forgave you.**

- **Collect**

Reconciling God, whose Son Jesus drew all people to himself upon the cross.  
We give thanks for our partners in the Community of the Cross of Nails around the  
world,

And ask your blessing on our work, as wounds of history are healed, diversity  
celebrated and peace building begun.

Give us the grace we need to share your vision for a kinder world, reflecting the love  
that shines in the face of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

- **Ministry of the Word**

Gospel reading: Luke 6 20-31

New Testament readings: either 2 Corinthians 6 vv 3-10 or 2 Corinthians 5 vv 17-21

Sermon notes available early September, and/or CoN Sunday video resources.

- **Affirmation of Faith**

*(from Common Worship – each group/church to use their own approved format)*

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

- **Intercessions**

**The Community of the Cross of Nails**

We pray for the diversity of this unique network. We pray for all the churches, charities, schools and chaplaincies who strive to heal wounds and build peace in their own contexts and among their own communities each day, whatever the barriers, across Europe, North America, Africa, Asia and the Antipodes. We ask for your Word to guide the Community as each works in support of the others, and for the broader ministry of reconciliation to which all Christians are called.

Father, by your Spirit, **bring in your Kingdom.**

**Coventry Cathedral**

We pray for wisdom, and for gentle, supportive guidance from the magnificent Cathedral at the heart of this network which so inspires CCN partners around the world. We pray for all who work and worship in Coventry, and for the people of the city and diocese, and their continued strength in the ongoing work of building a culture of peace in and beyond Coventry. Help us to both learn from Coventry, and reflect back to them, that faith which calls us to live beyond what is comfortable.

Father, by your Spirit, **bring in your Kingdom.**

*Followed by intercessions chosen by individual partners for their own situations and/or reflecting the readings from the Scriptures.*

- **The 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.

*For those churches choosing to celebrate with a Eucharist:*

- **Eucharistic Prayer**

*Preface for All Saints, Common Worship p 327*

*It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should always sing of your glory,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
For you are the hope of the nations,  
the builder of the city that is to come.  
Your love made visible in Jesus Christ  
brings home the lost,  
restores the sinner  
and gives dignity to the despised.  
In his face your light shines out,  
flooding lives with goodness and truth,  
gathering into one in your kingdom  
a divided and broken humanity.  
Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation  
we glorify your name,  
for ever praising you and saying:*

- **Clergy & people receive Communion**

- **Post Communion Prayer**

*All : Generous God,  
we give thanks that you have welcomed us at your table  
and invited us to share in the ministry of reconciliation  
perfected in your Son.  
Renew us by your Spirit,  
that we may be agents of your transforming hope,  
building bridges of faith and love in our communities.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.***

• **Act of Commissioning**

God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself  
and has entrusted the message and ministry of reconciliation to us.  
Will you let this word of the gospel take root in you,  
and this ministry of the gospel be at work through you?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

Will you, as ambassadors for Christ,  
appeal to all people on Christ's behalf:  
'Be reconciled to God'?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

Will you, as signs of the new creation,  
seek to learn from history,  
and to heal its wounds?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

Will you, living in the light of God's love,  
strive to live with those who are different from you  
and celebrate the rich diversity of humanity,  
made in the image of God?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

Will you, reconciled to God in one body by the cross,  
foster a culture a peace,  
that the world may be a kinder, gentler,  
more Christ-child like place?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

• **Blessing**

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts  
and your minds in Christ Jesus.

• **Dismissal**

Go in peace to share the reconciling love of God  
In the name of Christ, **Amen.**

