

EVENING PRAYER LITURGY – “MAKING A DIFFERENCE”

Call to Worship

Leader:

We gather in the presence of God,
the One who calls us, shapes us, and sends us.
Whether weary or hopeful, young or old,
we come as one family in Christ.
Let us open our hearts to God
who empowers us to make a difference.

Opening Prayer

Gracious God,
You call us to live as light in a world that longs for hope.
You do not ask us to be perfect;
You simply ask us to follow Christ and to serve in love.
Wherever we are placed—
in homes, workplaces, schools, community groups,
care facilities, and quiet routines—
You offer us opportunities to reflect Your grace.
Open our minds to Your Word this evening.
Open our hearts to Your Spirit.
Open our lives to Your purposes.
Make us willing, courageous, and ready to respond.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading for Reflection

Matthew 5:13–16

“You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Reflection Questions Where has God placed me right now—in my stage of life—and how might that be a place where light can shine?

Whether raising children, caring for family, working, volunteering, or navigating retirement, where might God be nudging me to make a difference?

What small, consistent acts of kindness or service can our church community offer that would meaningfully impact our parish and neighbours?

As followers of Christ, we do not wait for the perfect moment or the perfect ability. Christ calls us to bring who we are, where we are, and trust that God multiplies every act of love—no matter how small. Young or old, active or limited in mobility, busy with work or adjusting to retirement, each of us carries influence and compassion.

Salt works quietly but powerfully. Light does not shout; it simply shines. A Christ-centred community makes a difference not by doing everything, but by doing the things God places before us with faithfulness, generosity, and grace.

Prayers for Others

God of compassion,
We lift before You those we have named aloud
and those we hold quietly in our hearts.
For the sick and suffering—bring healing.
For the lonely—bring comfort.
For the troubled—bring peace.
For the grieving—bring hope.

We pray for our local community:
families struggling with pressures of modern life,
older adults who feel isolated,
children and young people finding their place in the world,
those facing financial hardship,
and all who need support and encouragement.

We pray for our nation and our world:
for peacemakers where conflict rages,
for wisdom among leaders where division grows,

for justice where people are oppressed,
and for mercy where suffering is overwhelming.

Lord, help Your Church—here and everywhere—
to be a beacon of light,
a people of courage and compassion,
making a difference in the love of Christ.
Amen.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
You have spoken to us, encouraged us, and challenged us.
Send us into the week ahead
as people of light and people of hope.
Use our hands to serve,
our words to bless,
our presence to encourage,
and our lives to reflect Your love.
Make us a Christ-centred community
that makes a difference—
in small ways and in significant ways—
in Your name and for Your glory.
Amen.