

## A Short Act of Worship for Sunday 4 July (Trinity 5)

Lord, open our lips and our mouth shall proclaim your praise

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you, now and for ever. Amen

*Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer, for all things living you have made good; Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.*

*Lord, bless the labour we bring to serve you, that with our neighbour we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you; harvesting, milling, for daily bread.*

*Father, providing food for your children, your wisdom guiding teaches us share One with another, so that, rejoicing, sister and brother may know your care.*

*Then will your blessing reach every people; each one confessing your gracious hand. When you are reigning no one will hunger: Your love sustaining fruitful the land*

Jesus said, 'Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.'  
As sisters and brothers in God's family, we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

*A pause for reflection ...*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit. Lord, have mercy.  
You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart. Christ, have mercy.  
You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided. Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins,  
and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*God's Word:*

Jesus left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

*(Mark 6: 1-13)*

*One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go;  
from the old things to the new keep me traveling along with you:*

