



### **Invocation**

Majesty, Worship His majesty  
Unto Jesus, be all glory, honor and praise  
Majesty, Kingdom authority  
Flows from His throne, unto His own, His anthem raise.  
So exalt, lift up on high the Name of Jesus  
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King.  
Majesty, worship His majesty  
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings  
Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings

### **Opening Prayer**

**P:** Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. When all the people saw him walking and praising God, they recognized him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Acts 3:6-10

Come let us worship and serve God, the source of hope and joy;  
Celebrate and serve one another, rejoicing in our diversity;  
Transform and serve the world, until we become a community which reflects God's Oneness and Peace. Let the House of God be open to all who would enter and worship the Lord. Amen

### **Opening Hymn**

There is sunshine in my soul today,  
More glorious and bright  
Than glows in any earthly sky,  
For Jesus is my light.

*O there's sunshine, blessed sunshine,  
While the peaceful, happy moments roll;*

*When Jesus shows His smiling face  
There is sunshine in my soul.*

There is music in my soul today,  
A carol to my King;  
And Jesus, listening, can hear  
The song I cannot sing.

There is gladness in my soul today,  
And hope, and praise, and love,  
For blessings which He gives me now,  
For joys laid up above

Lyrics: Eliza Edmunds Hewitt (1851-1920) Music: John Robson Sweney (1837-1899)

### **Kauma**

P. †Glory be to the Father our Creator, to the Son our Redeemer and to the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us.

C. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

P. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

C. Blessed is He that has come and is to come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P. Holy art thou, O God.

C. Holy art thou, Almighty Lord.

P. Holy art thou, Immortal Lord.

C. O Lord, the Messiah who was crucified for us † have mercy on us. **(To be repeated thrice)**

P. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. O Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.

P. O Lord, accept our prayers and worship and have mercy on us.

C. Glory be to you, O God.

P. Glory be to you, O Creator.

C. Glory be to you, O King the Messiah; who has mercy on us sinners. Bless us, O Lord.

(Let us sing together the prayer that Jesus taught us)

***All: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is done in heaven.***

***Give us this day our daily bread.***

***And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.***

***And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.***

***For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, Forever. Amen.***

(Cong. to be seated)

Lessons 1 Isaiah 42:16-20

Lesson 2 Acts 3:1-10

## **Meditation**

### **L: Special Angels**

Special children are just  
Angels in disguise.  
Sent to fill our hearts with joy  
And to brighten up our lives.

They have so much love to give  
And bring us blessings untold.  
We know those tiny feet  
Have walked on streets paved with gold.

We know they were formed  
From Heavenly air.  
Created by our Father  
With gentle, loving care.

Then He sent them to earth  
To bless every life they touch.  
If we follow their shining way  
We can learn so very much.

And as we wonder why  
God plans things as he does.  
He only sends these little angels  
To families with lots of love.

For He knows we will watch over them  
And love them very much.  
But maybe he sent them here  
So they could watch over us.  
(Juanita Vaughan Hopkins)

### **C: Hymn**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch; like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toil and snares  
I have already come  
Tis grace that brought me safe thus far  
And grace will lead me home.

Yes when this heart and flesh shall fail,

And mortal life shall cease  
I shall possess within the veil  
A life of joy and peace,

The Lord hath promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.

Lyrics: John Newton (1725-1807)

**L: The Beatitudes for friends of people with disabilities**

Blessed are you who take time to listen to difficult speech, for you help us to know that if we persevere we can be understood.

Blessed are you who walk with us in public places, and ignore the stares of strangers, for in your companionship we find havens of relaxation.

Blessed are you who never bid us to "hurry up" and more blessed you who do not snatch our tasks from our hands to do them for us, for often we need time rather than help.

Blessed are you who stand beside us as we enter new and untried ventures, for our failures will be outweighed when we surprise ourselves and you.

Blessed are you who ask for our help, for our greatest need is to be needed.

Blessed are you who help us with the graciousness of Christ, who did not bruise the reed and quench the flax, for often we need the help we cannot ask for.

Blessed are you when by all these things you assure us that the thing that makes us individuals is not in our peculiar muscles, not in our wounded nervous system, not in our difficulties in learning but in the God-given self which no infirmity can confine.

Rejoice and be exceedingly glad and know that you give us reassurances that could never be spoken in words, for you deal with us as Christ deals with all of His Children.

**Blessed are you! Indeed!**

---Andre Masse, CSE, NAMR Quarterly, 1968.

**L: I am Special – (Song of a Special Child)**

I feel rain  
I see a rainbow.  
To me a butterfly is pretty too.  
But I don't see it the way you do.

Time doesn't question  
My every aspiration,

Staring at a face, or into space.  
But, lucky me  
That's where I should be.

I feel smiles  
Sunshine kisses me.  
You'd wonder why I smile,  
Never would guess by a mile.

My way may be uncertainty  
Stumbling along to eternity  
Sometimes a cause, some a loss.  
Me, I know  
That's where I want to go.

I feel sad  
Pain does hurt me.  
But my body's not as yours or any,  
Doesn't mean I need sympathy.

My life is so extraordinary.  
Is it God's reminding note to sundry?  
Life's not all fame, neither shame.  
You see, I am not  
Just another from your lot.

I am Special.

(Cong. To stand )

## **Thanksgiving Prayer**

### **Psalm 37**

**P:** <sup>23</sup>The Lord makes firm the steps  
of the one who delights in him;  
though he may stumble, he will not fall,  
for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

**C:** <sup>25</sup> I was young and now I am old,  
yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken  
or their children begging bread.  
They are always generous and lend freely;  
their children will be a blessing.[b]

**P:** <sup>27</sup> Turn from evil and do good;  
then you will dwell in the land forever.  
For the Lord loves the just  
and will not forsake his faithful ones.  
Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed[c];  
the offspring of the wicked will perish.

**C:**<sup>29</sup> The righteous will inherit the land  
and dwell in it forever.  
The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom,  
and their tongues speak what is just.

**P:** <sup>31</sup> The law of their God is in their hearts;  
their feet do not slip.  
The wicked lie in wait for the righteous,  
intent on putting them to death;

but the Lord will not leave them in the power of the wicked  
or let them be condemned when brought to trial.

**C:**<sup>34</sup> Hope in the Lord  
and keep his way.  
He will exalt you to inherit the land;  
when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.

**P:** <sup>35</sup> I have seen a wicked and ruthless man  
flourishing like a luxuriant native tree,  
but he soon passed away and was no more;  
though I looked for him, he could not be found.

**C:**<sup>37</sup> Consider the blameless, observe the upright;  
a future awaits those who seek peace.  
But all sinners will be destroyed;  
there will be no future for the wicked.

**P:** <sup>39</sup> The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord;  
he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**C:**<sup>40</sup> The Lord helps them and delivers them;  
he delivers them from the wicked and saves them,  
because they take refuge in him.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy*

**P:** Almighty and Creator God; we come before you today as people who are separated from one another by fears, prejudices and an inability to reach beyond ourselves to discover the joy of community.

**C:** By our language, actions, and faculties we create insiders and outsiders in our lives and in our church. Forgive us and develop in us the vision of opening our hearts, minds and doors as wide as the love of God, so that no one is left outside. Give us the vision to see that all people have gifts and

abilities to share as part of our community of faith. We pray in the name of the one who always saw the best in people, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson, Kyrie Elieson  
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy*

### **Intercessory Prayers**

**L:** Heavenly Father, all of us are precious to you, for we are all created in your image. We pray that you look with favour on the physically and mentally challenged in our midst. Help us recognize their difficulties and their vast potential while facing these challenges. May we share Your love, affection and assistance to help them live in fullness and peace and together may we be drawn closer to you. Amen

**C:** I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,  
And it told Thy love to me;  
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,  
And be closer drawn to Thee.

*Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To the cross where Thou hast died;  
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,  
To Thy precious, healing side.*

**L:** God of all goodness, we pray especially for the Special Angels of the Mar Thoma Opportunity school. We pray for the parents of these Special Angels, grant them patience and the limitless love to take care of these precious jewels. Dear Lord, grant your blessings on the teachers and staff in the Opportunity school, fill their hearts with abundant joy and endow them with all the spiritual and material resources they need. Bless the Management of the school, direct them in the right way and help them understand their great responsibility to Your calling. Amen

**C:** Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,  
By the pow'r of grace divine;  
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,  
And my will be lost in Thine.

**L:** We come together today as people with different skills, different abilities, different disabilities. We come as one body in Christ. We ask You to help us be compassionate toward all, even as You have been compassionate toward us. Gather us together, in compassion and in faith. Help us to welcome and honor everyone in this community regardless of physical strength and ability, regardless of differences of mind or spirit. Open us, O God; make us accessible to your Spirit, and accessible to all your people so that we commune as friend with friend. Amen.

**C:** O the pure delight of a single hour  
That before Thy throne I spend,  
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,

I commune as friend with friend!

Lyrics:Fanny Jane Crosby (1820-1915) Music:William Howard Doane (1832-1915)

### **Gospel Reading**

P: †Peace be with you all.

C: May the Lord make us all worthy to listen to His Word.

P: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, which proclaims life and salvation to the world as recorded by John 5:1-9

C: Blessed is He that has come and will come again. Praise to the Father who sent him for our Salvation. May His blessings be ever upon us.

P: In the days of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, the Word of life, God incarnate of the blessed Virgin Mary, it happened in this way.

C: So we believe and affirm.

(After reading the Gospel, the priest says, †'Peace be with you all')

C: We thank you, Lord, that you have given us your gospel which is indeed the light of the world, that we may be drawn closer to you through the living words from your gospel which we have now heard.

### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in the one true God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all world; Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made, who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified also for us in the days of Pontius Pilate; suffered and died and was buried. The third day He rose again, by His Father's holy will, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. He will come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead and of His kingdom there will be no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets and the apostles. We believe in one Holy Catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the new life of the world to come. Amen.

(Cong. to be seated)

### **Birthday, Wedding Anniversary & Thanksgiving**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
Much we need Thy tender care;  
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Thy folds prepare:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine, do Thou befriend us,  
Be the guardian of our way;  
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us,  
Seek us when we go astray:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,

Hear, O hear us when we pray;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us,  
Poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,  
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor,  
Early let us do Thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior,  
With Thy love our bosoms fill:  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Savior, like a shepherd lead us  
Author (attr.): Dorothy A. Thrupp (1836)

### **Offertory**

When He cometh, when He cometh  
To make up His jewels,  
All His jewels, precious jewels,  
His loved and His own.

*Like the stars of the morning,  
His brightness adorning,  
They shall shine in their beauty,  
Bright gems for His crown.*

He will gather, He will gather  
The gems for His kingdom;  
All the pure ones, all the bright ones,  
His loved and His own.

Little children, little children,  
Who love their Redeemer,  
Are the jewels, precious jewels,  
His loved and His own.

Words: William O. Cushing, 1856.  
Music: Jewels, George F. Root, 1866

## **MESSAGE**

### **Closing Prayer**

**P:** As God's creations, we are fashioned uniquely,  
Each endowed with individuality of body, mind, and spirit  
to worship freely the One who has given us life.

**C:** Each of us has abilities; each seeks fulfillment and wholeness.  
Each of us has disabilities; each knows isolation and incompleteness.  
Seeking shelter from the vulnerability we all share,  
Claiming our promised place in God's Household of Faith,  
Let us be transformed by God's invitation, affirmation, and love. Amen

### **Prayer & Benediction**

**P:** As we seek to have open hearts, open minds and open doors,  
help us to move beyond opening the door to welcome only those who can climb the steps to enter.  
Help us to move beyond opening our hearts to love only those who look like us.  
And help us to move beyond opening our minds to accept only those who think like us.  
Help us to create an environment, in our church and in our community, where all are welcome.

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

### **Doxology and Kiss of Peace**

Take the name of Jesus with you,  
Child of sorrow and of hope;  
It will joy and comfort give you,  
Take it then where'er you go.

*Precious name! Oh, how sweet!  
Hope of earth and joy of heav'n;  
Precious name! Oh, how sweet!  
Hope of earth and joy of heav'n.*

Take the name of Jesus ever,  
As a shield from every snare.  
If temptations round you gather,  
Breathe that holy name in prayer.

Oh, the precious name of Jesus,  
How it thrills our souls with joy;  
When his loving arms receive us  
And His songs our tongues employ.  
Lyrics: Lydia Odell Baxter (1809-1874)  
Music: William Howard Doane (1832-1915).

**Primrose Mar Thoma Church Choir- October 2017**