



## Celebrating Liturgy of the Word with Family 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time

Preparation – allow some time to prepare

- Read through the outline beforehand
- Arrange seating and set a prayer focus in the centre. Include candles, cross, children’s art, something from nature.
- Open links. Beginning, psalm, ‘reflection’ after the gospel, after prayer of faithful and at the end.
- Share the reader role. Encourage your readers to practice beforehand and pause for commas and full-stops. Don’t correct children as they are reading or during the Liturgy.

**Light candles. SIGN OF THE CROSS: Ki te ingoa...** Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Welcome Everybody. Today is the 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time. Pope Francis is asking **families** to go on a 7-year journey toward integral ecology. This means thinking more about how we are connected to all the other life on earth. It’s also the end of Māori language week. Let’s sing *He Hōnore* together.

**SONG: He Honore** (words Biblical and Tūhoe origin. Composer Ranui Ngarimu and Taina Piripi Ngarimu Public Domain) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wczPnHy5UNE>

He hōnore, he korōria  
Maungārongo ki te whenua  
Whakaaro pai e  
Ki ngā tangata katoa  
Ake ake, ake ake  
Āmene  
Te Atua, te piringa,  
Toku oranga

**READER:** Let us pray – ka inoi tatou.

You have made us people who always try to do things better, Lord have mercy

**(All)** Lord have mercy

You have given us the gift of science which helps us understand more about nature. Christ have mercy.

**(All)** Christ have mercy

You have given us the gift of technology which helps us improve people’s lives. Lord have mercy

**(All)** Lord have mercy

### Reader

*‘God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love*

*for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.’ From, A Christian Prayer in Union with Creation, Laudato si*

**DISCUSS:** Look at the pictures for a few moments.

**QUESTION:** What is our place in this world?

What does it mean to be a ‘channel’ of God’s love?



**COLLECT/OPENING PRAYER:** Thank you for your ideas. Let’s remember the personal things we want to pray about. *(Allow silence - 1 minute)*

Lovely God, everything you made, you have made from love. Everything begins with your love. Help us to live as you want us to, loving you and loving our neighbour. We pray through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

**READING: Isaiah 55:6-9 Good News Translation**

**Reader 1** Turn to the Lord and pray to him, now that he is near.

**Reader 2** Let the wicked leave their way of life and change their way of thinking.

**Reader 1** Let them turn to the Lord, our God; he is merciful and quick to forgive.

**Reader 2** 'My thoughts,' says the Lord, are not like yours, and my ways are different from yours.

**Reader 1** As high as the heavens are above earth, so high are my ways and thoughts above yours.

The Word of the Lord – **Ko te kupu a te Ariki**

**ALL:** Thanks be to God – **Whakamoemiti ki te Atua**

**Silence** – *Let's be quiet for a few moments and let God's Word settle inside us.*

**Discuss:** What does 'change their way of thinking' mean?

God is 'merciful' and 'quick to forgive.' What can we say God is like?

**REFLECTION:** *Join in (sing and clap)-God is Here* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDtPlpQfulE>

**GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16 Good News Translation**

**Reader 1** *Let's listen to this story Jesus told to help people understand what the kingdom of heaven is like.*

'The Kingdom of heaven is like this.

**Reader 2** Once there was a man who went out early in the morning to hire some men to work in his vineyard. He agreed to pay them the regular wage, a silver coin a day, and sent them to work in his vineyard.

**Reader 1** He went out again to the marketplace at nine o'clock and saw some men standing there doing nothing, so he told them, 'You also go and work in the vineyard, and I will pay you a fair wage.' So they went.

**Reader 2** Then at twelve o'clock and again at three o'clock he did the same thing.

**Reader 1** It was nearly five o'clock when he went to the marketplace and saw some other men still standing there. 'Why are you wasting the whole day here doing nothing?' he asked them.

**Reader 2** 'No one hired us,' they answered.

**Reader 1** 'Well, then, you go and work in the vineyard,' he told them.

**Reader 2** "When evening came, the owner told his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with those who were hired last and ending with those who were hired first.'

**Reader 1** The men who had begun to work at five o'clock were paid a silver coin each.

**Reader 2** So when the men who were the first to be hired came to be paid, they thought they would get more; but they too were given a silver coin each.

**Reader 1** They took their money and started grumbling against the employer.

**Reader 2** 'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'while we put up with a whole day's work in the hot sun—yet you paid them the same as you paid us!'

**Reader 1** 'Listen, friend,' the owner answered one of them, 'I have not cheated you. After all, you agreed to do a day's work for one silver coin. Now take your pay and go home. I want to give this man who was hired last as much as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do as I wish with my own money? Or are you jealous because I am generous?'

**Reader 2** And Jesus concluded, "So those who are last will be first, and those who are first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord - **Ko te rongopai a te Ariki**

**ALL:** Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ - **Kia whakanuia rā koe e Hēhu Karaiti.**

*After the reading - silence. Let some words go over and over in your mind.*

**Discuss:** How does this story help us to understand the difference between everybody having the same, and everybody having enough?

**3 minute talk by 'Douglas'** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdMUNyoGuKw>

**Discuss:** What is Douglas's message?

**Prayer of the Faithful** – we pray for the Church and the whole world.

**For the Church** – that we serve Jesus by serving poor people in our communities.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For the world's leaders** – that they work together for the good of all.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For an end to the Covid-19 pandemic** – that the pandemic be ended and people be healed.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For Aotearoa New Zealand in this election year** – that the politicians we elect act with wisdom and protect the natural world.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For people who work on the land to produce food** – that they farm in a way that cares for soil and water.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For all workers** – that their work provides them and their family enough to live on.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For those in the US facing bushfires** – that people who have lost everything be cared for.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki      **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

Merciful and kind God hear our prayers that we bring to you. We make these prayers through Christ our Lord. ... **Amen**

**READER:** Let's pray this photo prayer, God's Gift of the Earth, then Our Father.

**God's Gift of the Earth** (someone reads the text) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lR18lqm\\_lo&t=39s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3lR18lqm_lo&t=39s)

**Our Father**, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**COLLECTION: READER:** Something that Christian people do is support people who need help. There are lots of people who need help. Let's talk about who needs help and what we could do to help them?

Thank you for your kindness. Thank you for your participation in today's Liturgy of the Word. Let us go in peace to love and serve God. Kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou – Peace be with you.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SONG:** Love song to the Earth <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XAjuo353w9I&t=71s>

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