



## 2 Corinthians Liturgical Resources

Week Five

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

### LITURGY

#### Opening Sentence

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

*2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

#### Penitence

Lord, you are Lord of creation and the giver of all good gifts  
Forgive our hoarding and fearfulness  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You provide enough for our needs and the needs of others  
Forgive our lack of trust in you  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You bless the generosity of your people  
Forgive our lack of faith. Release in us a new freedom  
and an outpouring of praise and thanksgiving to you  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

#### Collect

God our Father, in love you are always giving to us;  
You gave life in creation and hope to your people Israel;  
you have given us all things in Jesus  
and your presence among us through the gift of your Holy Spirit:  
open our hearts to enjoy all you have given  
and our hands to share generously of what is yours;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Intercessions

*God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance  
...so that you might share in every good work (2 Cor 9:8)*  
Father God we pray for our nation. In our awareness that all is  
not right, let us not forget to give you thanks and praise for the  
blessings we know and often take for granted: our freedom to  
speak, education, health and relative prosperity. For ourselves,  
our local leaders and the leaders of our nation we pray for a  
spirit of thankfulness, integrity and justice. Especially we pray  
for .... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity  
(2 Cor 9:11)*

Lord Jesus, we live in a world where millions are hungry, denied  
basic human rights and crippled by war, corruption and the  
burden of international debt. As we know your generosity to us,  
give us generosity of heart, courage to believe, passion for  
justice and strength to act. We pray for increased efforts and

greater influence by Britain in the cancellation of third world  
debt. Especially we pray for ...

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

*For this ministry not only meets the needs of the saints but also  
overflows with many thanksgivings to God. (2 Cor 9:12)*

Holy Spirit, grant that we might be generous in meeting the  
needs of others, through our caring, the gift of our time, the  
wisdom of our words and our quiet listening and in practical  
ways; for in this way we give glory to you. We pray for those  
known to us who are suffering in mind, body or spirit at this  
time. Especially we pray for .... We remember also those who  
grieve the loss of a loved one, remembering especially ...  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*While they long for you and pray for you because of the grace  
that God has given to you (2 Cor 9:14)*

Lord God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit, the source of all goodness and grace. Grant us grateful  
and generous hearts in all things. Especially we pray that you  
will open our hearts and minds to recognise the gifts that the  
poor, the sorrowing, the frail can bring to us as they pray for us,  
bless us and challenge us

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers...**

#### Offertory

O Lord our God,  
maker of all things.  
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.  
With them we offer ourselves to your service  
and dedicate our lives  
to the care and redemption of all that you have made,  
for the sake of him who gave himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*From Lutheran Book of Worship, © 1978,  
by permission of Augsburg Fortress*

#### Post communion prayer 1

Lord Jesus Christ, you come to us with open hands,  
wounded hands,  
longing to fill us with your goodness;  
we have knelt before you this day with empty hands,  
unworthy hands,  
to receive bread and wine, symbol and sacrament of your grace  
and love to us.  
Grant that we who have received your gift of love might live  
generously;  
that we who have received your grace might live graciously;  
that our hands, our hearts and our possessions may always be  
open to you and to others.

*Unless otherwise indicated © The Diocese of Liverpool 2005*

## 2 Corinthians Liturgical Resources Week 5 continued

---

### **Post communion prayer 2**

O Lord Jesus Christ  
by your incarnation you sanctified material things  
to be the means of your grace:  
we thank you that with this spiritual food, this bread and this  
wine  
you have strengthened us to live graciously in this world.  
Grant us a right attitude to money,  
and a generous heart in the use of the  
wealth committed to us,  
that by our stewardship we may glorify you,  
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

© Central Board of Finance (adapted)

### **Blessing**

May God who loves a cheerful giver,  
and gives us all things in Christ,  
swell the harvest of your benevolence.

**Amen.**

May Christ who for our sake became poor  
make you rich in everything –  
in faith, speech, knowledge and love.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit who gives gifts to all people,  
flood your hearts with thanksgiving to God.

**Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Stewardship Network Resource Book*