THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread which we break, is it not a sharing of the body of Christ? We, who are many, are one body for we all partake of the one bread.

Draw near and receive the body and the blood of Christ. Be touched and lifted up by God in your body, mind and soul, by faith with thanksgiving.

CONCLUSION

Give thanks for God’s compassion
God’s mercy endures forever.
God bless everyone living with AIDS in Africa
Guard their lives and their loved ones
Guide their healers and their helpers
Give us all new wholeness and new hope
For Jesus Christ’s sake, Amen

Having been lifted up and assured of God’s love through the Word and Sacrament, let us go forth to live boldly and with courage, determined to live and minister with love in the face of HIV/AIDS. And may the blessing of God our creator, healer and life giver be among you and remain with you and all those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS now and always, Amen.

Go in compassion to love and serve God’s people
In the name of Christ, Amen

(Adapted from the Service booklet at the Launch of Isiseko Sokomoleza: 2003, with thanks to Rev Cheryl Bird).

EUCHARIST FOCUSING ON HIV/AIDS

“Being Lifted Up”

(Preparation: A basket of stones is placed next to the altar to represent those’ living stones’ who are living with HIV. An empty basket is placed on the top of the altar).
God be in you
And also in you

We are gathered together in the name of the Risen Christ; to raise our hearts and voices in praise and thanksgiving; to lift up the needs of the people living with HIV&AIDS and to be built up as the Body of Christ through Word and Sacrament.

PRAISE & WORSHIP

PENITENCE
God calls us as a people, a whole people, of whom none is worthless. We are called to bear witness to the Good News that no-one is a stranger or an outsider; and that in Jesus Christ all division and separation have been broken down. In the face of the world-wide crisis of AIDS, we are called to be one people and yet hardness of heart, discrimination and oppression prevent us from being who God calls us to be. For this we ask for forgiveness. God of compassion we often misrepresent you as a God of wrath, yet you are a God of love, raising us all to life; and so we ask:

Kyrie eleison Christe eleison Kyrie eleison

Healing one, banish the fear that has paralysed us in responding to the needs of all who are affected by HIV&AIDS. We falter, encourage and strengthen us; and so we ask:

Kyrie eleison Christe eleison Kyrie eleison

Spirit of Unity, you build us up when we break down. You unite when we divide, you comfort when we condemn; and so we ask:

Kyrie eleison Christe eleison Kyrie eleison

ABSOLUTION
May God our Parent, God our Healer and God our Comforter have mercy on you, forgive your sin and bring you to everlasting life. Amen.

Holy, holy, holy One
God of compassion and hope
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed are those who are filled with your Spirit
And embrace the awareness in your love
Hosanna in the highest
And now by the power of the Spirit, God’s healing gift may this bread and this wine be to us Christ’s body and blood.

On the last night, he met with friends; he put a towel around his waist and knelt to wash the feet of all those who gathered to share in the meal, saying “I am among you as one who serves”. During supper, he took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to his friends saying, “This bread is for you, it is my body which I freely give you. Do this to remember me”. When the meal was over, he gave thanks and shared the cup with them saying, “This cup is for you, it is my blood. It will be shed for you and for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me”.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith;
Dying you destroyed our death
Rising you restored our life
We are lifted into God’s glory

Gathered together we celebrate our life in God, recalling Christ’s sacrifice, we remember all those who are infected and affected in any way by HIV/AIDS. We seek the healing touch of your hand that we might be one with each other and filled with the joy of loving you. We thank you for the comforting gift of life in your Holy Spirit and, nourished by the sacrament of Christ’s body and blood ask that we may be one, even as you, God are one.

We pray for the Church, that we may serve in a spirit of acceptance and humility and reveal the truth of your love. By our thought, word and deed enable us to reflect the promise of your salvation in the world. We commend to your grace and mercy all who have died, and to your consolation the widowed, the orphaned and all who grieve.
**PRAYER**
Kum baya, my Lord, Kum baya X3
O Lord, kum baya
Someone's crying Lord, kum baya X3
O Lord, kum baya

**Officiant 1**
Who is it that is crying? Why are they crying?
Are they tears of joy for being accepted as a treasured and respected member of the community? Are they crying with despair at the results of a blood test? Are they tears of pain at being rejected or tears of shame for being helpless and dependant?
Who is it that is crying? Why are they crying?
Is it you? Is it me? Is it the person beside you?

Someone's singing Lord, kum baya X3
O Lord, kum baya

**Officiant 2**
Who is that singing? What do they sing?
Are they singing words of praise to their creator, or words that ask for mercy? Are they singing songs of lament for their weary and broken lives? Or songs of hope and rejoicing at the beginning of each new day?
Who is that singing? What do they sing?
Is it you? Is it me? Is it the person beside you?

**Officiant 1**
Who is that praying? What are they praying?
Are they praying for more time...understanding...and acceptance? Are they praying for healing and strength, kindness and love? Do they pray for their children’s future and good memories for them?
Who is that praying? What are they praying?
Is it you? Is it me? Is it the person beside you?

**Officiant 2**
Who hears those who cry, who sing, who pray?
Is it you? Is it me? Is it the person beside you?
Are we listening to the crying, to the singing, to the praying?
The crying for joy and the crying for sorrow
The singing for joy and the singing for sorrow
The praying in thanksgiving and the praying caused by sorrow.

Christ help us to image you and move alongside those in need. You have no body now but mine, no hands, no feet on earth but mine. Mine are the eyes through which you look with compassion on this world. Mine are the feet with which you walk to do good. Mine are the hands with which you bless the world.
Ours are your hands, Ours are your feet.
You have no body now but ours;
No hands, no feet on earth but ours.
Ours are the eyes through which
You look with compassion on the world
You have no body now on earth but us. Amen
(Adapted from a prayer of Teresa of Avila)

**PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS**
Blessed are you, Holy God of all creation, through your goodness, we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. For us it becomes the bread of life.
Blessed be God forever

Blessed are you, Holy God of all creation, through your goodness, we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. For us it becomes the cup of salvation
Blessed be God forever
Blessed are you, Holy God of all creation. Into your compassion we offer these stones, symbols of living stones who are infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, both those remembered with love and care and those who are forgotten, not known or rejected. The living and the dead bound with us in Christ by sacrament, prayer and praise.

Blessed be God forever

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The compassion of God be in you
And also in you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to our God

Let us give thanks to the God of grace
It is right to give God thanks and praise

Blessed are you merciful healer of the sick and wounded, source of our salvation. You have made us in your image; through your loving mercy you have redeemed us and revealed your presence in the courage and steadfast faith of those who suffer and those who care for the vulnerable.

Through his life and ministry Christ Jesus showed us the depth of your love through forgiveness and sacrifice; by going beyond the boundaries of expected social and religious behaviour to touch and heal, to accept and embrace the sick, the marginalized, the poor and untouchable; He reached out in compassionate concern to his Mother and his friend in the midst of his own suffering, weakness and dying.

Emptied of all worldly power, weak and yet still strong; wounded and yet still healed; human and yet still God, he gave us hope when he overcame darkness of sin and death and offered us new life in unity with him.

And so we join the angels and the saints and all those who have died in the faith by proclaiming your glory as we say:

COLLECT

THE WORD OF GOD

SERMON

CREED

We believe in God.
The Creator of all life and beauty, who blesses our journey

We believe in Jesus Christ
Who lived as a friend and Saviour to all he met as he travelled the countryside, who ate and laughed, wept and celebrated with people in all walks of life.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who rides on the breeze in the country touching all with gentleness and love; who strengthens our commitment, who offers us eternal hope.

We believe in the church which stands open to all travellers and bears witness to the everlasting love of God (Adapted from ‘Shore to Shore’)

While quiet music is played, ask the congregation to take a stone from the basket and place it on the altar to symbolize someone they know who is living with HIV.