**Liturgical resources for Hope 25**

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These texts are designed for use within a Eucharist / Holy Communion service (APBA Holy Communion Second Order) in the Easter Season 2025, in conjunction with the Hope 25 activities of a parish or community.

If the service is the main Sunday service, the Song of Praise, the Gloria, and either the Apostles’ Creed or the Nicene Creed must be used, and the lectionary readings for the day should also be used. For the Great Thanksgiving, Thanksgiving (APBA page 128-9) with Easter one of the Easter preface (APBA page 154-5) should be used. The proper Prayer of the Day (or of the week) for the relevant week of Easter must be used. If it is desired to use the Hope 25 prayer, it may be included to begin or end the Prayers of the People, but it should not be used as the Prayer of the Day.

Elements provided here are:

* Gathering texts in dialogue form to replace the Collect for Purity (*replace, do not add to* “Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open…”)
* A confession in dialogue form, with absolution. “Kyrie eleison” / “Lord have mercy” is optional, and may be used when these elements are normally sung by congregation or choir.
* Prayers of the People
* A prayer after communion
* A blessing and dismissal in responsive form

Appropriate elements of these resources may also be used in a Service of the Word, such as Morning or Evening Prayer, or Praise, Prayer and Proclamation.

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

The Lord be with you.  
 **And also with you.**

Christ is risen, alleluia!  
 **The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!**

Let us praise God with thankful hearts,  
for the tomb is empty, and love is on the move.  
 **Christ is risen, alleluia!**

Let us listen to the word with faithful hearts,  
for Christ is among us, and no doors can keep him out.  
 **Christ is risen, alleluia!**

Let us declare our faith with hopeful hearts,  
for the Spirit is breathing peace upon us.  
 **Christ is risen, alleluia!**

Let us worship the holy and glorious Trinity,  
light in our darkness, joy in our sorrow, hope for the world.  
 **Christ is risen, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Sin and shame entangle us.  
Guilt and grief weigh us down.  
So let us confess our sins,  
confident in God’s forgiveness.

*We keep silence together*

Holy God, in weakness and wilfulness  
we have turned away from you.  
 **We are sorry for all our sins.   
 Bring us back into your embrace.  
 [Kyrie eleison / Lord, have mercy]**

In doubt and despair,  
we have gone astray without you.  
 **We are sorry for all our sins.   
 Lead us back to your way of faith and truth.  
 [Christe eleison / Christ, have mercy]**

In anger and apathy,  
we have wasted your good gifts.  
 **We are sorry for all our sins.  
 Give us back a gentle and generous heart.   
 [Kyrie eleison / Lord, have mercy]**

*The priest says*

The Lord Jesus Christ died and rose again  
to take away the sins of the world,  
and to give us a future with hope.  
You are set free from all your sins.   
Live the new life in Christ.  
Stand tall in the Spirit of grace.  
Be a messenger of hope in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world, for the church, and for all people in need.

In all the sorrowing places of the world,  
where the pain of poverty diminishes lives,  
where the shadow of war lies heavy,   
where leaders are arrogant or greedy,  
where citizens are careless or selfish,  
where strangers are shunned or persecuted,  
Lord Jesus Christ, life of the world,  
 **bring hope and change.**

In all the troubled places of the church,  
where weariness saps our energy,  
where conflict distracts us from care,  
where our hospitality has grown selective,  
where our telling of the good news needs refreshing,   
where our heart for prayer needs renewing,  
Lord Jesus Christ, heart of the church,  
 **bring hope and change.**

In all our work and prayer for Hope 25,  
to the people we are praying for,  
to the people we are inviting,  
to the projects we are planning,  
to the events we are organising,  
with grace beyond what we dare to ask or imagine,  
Lord Jesus Christ, Wisdom of God,   
 **bring hope and change.**

In all the troubled places of our community,  
where change is happening too fast for comfort,  
where families are shaky and people are lonely,  
where work is hard to find or heavy to bear,  
where neighbours are fearful instead of friendly,  
where old injustices remain unnamed and unhealed,  
Lord Jesus Christ, companion of the weary,  
 **bring hope and change.**

In all the troubled bodies, minds and spirits of your people,  
where sickness or injury brings fear or pain,  
where grief and loss are paralysing,  
where difficult decisions must be made,  
where there seems to be no light on the path ahead,  
where suffering is deep, and caring is costly.  
Lord Jesus Christ, healer and helper,  
 **bring hope and change.**

As we remember the saints of generations past,  
as we give thanks for the good of their example,  
[as we remember especially…..]  
as we rejoice in your promise to bring your people  
through the deep waters of death to resurrection life,  
as we commit ourselves to following you faithfully,  
Lord Jesus Christ, Lord of life abundant and life eternal,  
 **bring hope and change.**

Lord Jesus Christ,   
**you know what is in our hearts,  
and you are always ready to help us,  
though we are people of little faith.  
Answer these and all our prayers,  
in the ways you know are best for us,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD’S PEOPLE

*Prayer after communion*

We thank you, living God,  
for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
who calls us his friends,  
and who gives us, in this meal,  
a taste of your goodness and love. **Strengthen our faith in him,  
 increase our hope,  
 and multiply our love.  
 Make us joyful messengers  
 of good news for all the world.**

*Blessing and dismissal*

The living God, who brings light out of darkness,  
shine on you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The risen Christ, who brings hope to the world,  
shine on you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit, who fills the church with joy and praise,  
shine on you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The blessing of our God, the holy and glorious Trinity,  
be upon you and remain with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia!  
 **Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**