

With acknowledgements to
Choir *St Faith's Choir*
Singers *Shalom & Daniella Daniels*
Keyboard *Melvin Peters*
Tolling of the bell *Durban Guild of Church Bellringers*
Flowers *Vanessa Naicker*
Transport for the elderly and infirm *St Philomena's Home*
Sponsorship *Office of the Premier*



premier

Department:
Office Of The Premier
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



Organised by **DIAKONIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

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NPO No: 013-005
PBO No: 18/11/13/1356 Section 18(1)(a)

born free ? *isizukulwane esikhululekile ?*

poverty
drugs
hunger
abuse, corruption, gender injustice, service
delivery, medical services, education, rape
housing, human trafficking, child prostitution
suicide
HN & AIDS
peer pressure
prosecution &
convictions
for perpetrators
vulnerability
unemployment
economic injustice
family life

Preacher: Prof Sarojini Nadar, Evangelical Lutheran Church

Inkonzo yePhasika - Good Friday Service
Durban Exhibition Centre
Friday 29 March 2013, 5:15-8:15am



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GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
organised by
DIAKONIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Exhibition Centre, Durban
processing to Durban City Hall

5.15 am
Friday 29 March 2013

**SERVICE AT THE DURBAN EXHIBITION CENTRE /
INKONZO NGAPHAKATHI E DURBAN CONVENTION CENTRE**

MEDITATION / UKUZINDLA

Revd Ian Booth, Chairperson, Diakonia Council of Churches
Nomabelu Mvambo-Dandala, Executive Director, Diakonia Council of Churches

The congregation is invited to join in meditative singing on arrival from 5:15am.
During this time, a PowerPoint presentation will be shown. / *Amalunga ebandla ayacelwa asijoyine ngo 5.15 ekuseni ngesikathi efika. Kulesisikhathi kuzoboniswa izithombe odongeni.*



Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's Holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.



Wees stil en weet Ek is die Heer (x3)
Ek spreek en wind en golwe bedaar (x3)
Ek sal ook jou getrou bewaar (x3)

Be still and know that I am God (x3)
I am the Lord that healeth thee (x3)
In Thee, O Lord, I put my trust (x3)

Thula wazi nginguThixo (x3)
NgiyiNkosi esindisayo (x3)
Kuwe Baba ngibek' ithemba lam (x3)



If my people who are called by My name
will humble themselves and pray
and seek my face, turn from their wicked ways,
then will I hear from heaven,
forgive their sin and heal their land.
If my people will humble themselves and pray.



Laudate omnes gentes, laudate Dominum.
Sing praises, all you people, sing praises to your God



Ngegazi leMvana (x3)
Siyosindiswa

— *Musical interlude* —

The blood that Jesus shed for me
Way back on Calvary;
It's that blood that gives me strength from day to day,
It will never lose its power.

Refrain

It reaches to the highest mountain.
It flows to the lowest valley.
The blood that gives me strength from day to day,
It will never lose its power.

Refrain

It soothes my doubts and calms my fears,
And it dries all, all my tears.
The blood that gives me strength from day to day,
It will never lose its power.

Refrain



Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin,
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.
Ukuthula kulomhlaba wezono
Igazi likaJesu linyenyez' ukuthula.



Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom
Jesus, O dink aan my, wanneer U, Heer, in U ryk kom



Suffer little children to come unto me,
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
 Suffer little children to come unto me
 For theirs is the kingdom of the Lord.



Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (x2)

*Refrain: O, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (x2)

Refrain

Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (x2)

Refrain

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (x2)

Refrain

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (x2)

Refrain

— Musical interlude —

*UyiNgcwele Baba, uyiNgcwele (x4)
 Uphakeme Baba, uphakeme (x4)
 You are holy my Lord, you are holy (x4)*



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
 When I call, answer me.
 O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,
 Come and listen to me.



*Senzeni na? (x8)
 How long, O God? (x8)*



— Musical interlude —

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION / UKWAMUKELA NOKUQALISA

Revd Ian Booth, Chairperson, Diakonia Council of Churches
 Nomabelu Mvambo-Dandala, Executive Director, Diakonia Council of Churches

CALL TO WORSHIP / MASISONDELE ENKOSINI NGOMKHULEKO

Revd Thabani Masikane, Moderator, Uniting Presbyterian Church

LEADER God has chosen us
 ALL **God has chosen us
 to bring good news to the poor,
 to bring new sight to those searching for light,
 God has chosen us**

LEADER God has chosen us
 ALL **God has chosen us
 to set alight a new fire,
 to bring to birth a new reign on earth,
 God has chosen us**

LEADER God is calling us
 ALL **God is calling us
 in all whose cry is unheard
 to raise up the voice with no power or choice
 God is calling us**

ENTRANCE OF THE CROSS / UKUNGENISWA KWESIPHAMBANO

CONFESSION / UKUVUMA ISONO



Bishop Rubin Phillip, Anglican Diocese of Natal

LEADER Jesus, we confess we have failed you, the children and the youth in our country. We fail to protect them against abuse. God forgive us.

ALL **Nkosi, sihawukele.**

LEADER We shy away from those who abuse them. God forgive us.

ALL **Kristu sihawukele.**

LEADER We are afraid to report the cases of abuse we witness. God forgive us.

ALL **Nkosi, sihawukele.**



Ms Jenni Boyce, Roman Catholic Church

LEADER We confess our apathy in not promoting better employment opportunities for young people, by not engaging enough with government and business employment structures and by not encouraging young people to improve their skills to make themselves more employable.

ALL **God, have mercy.**

LEADER We as Church confess to our youth our frequent apathy, negativity and hypocritical attitude towards them, rather than guiding and encouraging them with love, wisdom and honesty.

ALL **Christ, have mercy.**

LEADER God, we confess that we have taken youth depression lightly that has led them to commit suicide. We have criticised young people for being unruly and lazy, yet they are faced with more complex issues in their daily lives.

ALL **God, have mercy.**



Bishop Rubin Phillip, Anglican Diocese of Natal

LEADER Merciful God, forgive our apathy and lack of courage to deal with injustices towards our children, as we turn a blind eye, pretending not to see those used for child labour and sexual exploitation.

ALL **Bwana, utuhurumie.**

LEADER Gracious God, pardon us for neglecting our parental responsibility of teaching, disciplining and bringing up our children in the knowledge of true and everlasting freedom through the redeeming Christ.

ALL **Christ, have mercy.**

LEADER Loving God, in penitence we confess that we have sinned against You through our own fault, in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have left undone.

We confess that we have missed the mark in embodying your Word as your parables in the world. Lord Jesus, living Parable of God, make us parables of God for our world.

ALL **Seigneur, écoute-nous.**

The congregation is invited to write on the given piece of paper one specific thing they particularly want to confess to God. The papers are folded and passed to the end of the rows, where the ushers have bags into which the papers will be put. Some of the ushers slowly walk up the aisles carrying the bags of papers, and lay them at the foot of the cross. During this, the congregation sings softly. / *Ibandla liyacelwa libhale kumapheshana anikeziwe okukodwa afisa ukukuvuma kuNkulunkulu okuyisono. Uma esebhaliwe ayadluliswa lamapheshana afike ekugcineni kwezihlalo lapho ezothathwa abalawuli bawafake ezikhwameni abaziphethe. Abanye babalawuli bazohamba bephethe lamapheshana banyuke ngesizotha bawabeke ezinyaweni zesiphambano. Ngenkathi kwenzeka lokho ibandla liculela phansi.*



HYMN / ICULO

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Mangingagabisi, Nkosi,
Phandle kokubhubha kwakho,
Wonke amagug' akhona
Ngiwadela ngenxa yakho.

Kyk hoe Sy hand, Sy hoof, Sy voet,
Sy smart en liefde saam vertoon;
Hoe liefd' en smart mekaar ontmoet,
Hoe doringvlegsels hom daar kroon.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS / ISIQINISEKO SOKUTHETHELELWA

"Forgive them. They do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

"Bathethelele, ngokuba abakwazi abakwenzayo."

"Vergewe hulle, want hulle weet nie wat hulle doen nie."

CHORUS / IKHORASI

God forgave our sin in Jesus' name
We've been born again in Jesus' name
And in Jesus' name we come to you
To share His love as He told us to:

He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received,

Freely, freely give;

Go in My name and because you believe

Others will know that I live.'

All power is given in Jesus' name,
In earth and heaven in Jesus' name;
And in Jesus name we come to you
To share His power as He told us to.

OLD TESTAMENT READING / UKUFUNDWA KWETESTAMENTE ELIDALA

Rev'd Joe Lüdemann, Evangelical Lutheran Church

Genesis 1:27-31a, read in isiZulu

So God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God were they created male and female God created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to every living thing that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that had been made, and indeed, it was very good.

HYMN / ICULO

God, our maker, great Creator,
All creation sings your praise,
Sun and stars in all their splendour,
Moon in ev'ry changing phase,
Earth with all its trees and grasses,
Sparkling rivers, ocean blue,
All unite to pay you homage,
Singing joyously to you.

Provident and wise Creator,
As your mighty plan unfurled,
You made us to share your labour
In the building of the world.
Man and woman you created
That united, heart and home,
They might work and strive together
Till your endless realm may come.

God of truth and love unbounded,
Further still your mercy went
When uniting earth with heaven,
Your incarnate Son you sent:
First-born of your vast creation,
Holding all in unity,
Leading all in power and wisdom
To a glorious destiny.

GOSPEL / IVANGELI

Revd Christopher Saaiman, United Congregational Church

Luke 4:14-21, read in English

UJesu wabuyela eGalile ngamandla kaMoya, udumo lwakhe lwanda kulo lonke izwe langakhona. Wafundisa emasinagogeni abo edunyiswa yibo bonke. Wafika eNazareth, lapho wayondliwa khona, wangena esinagogeni ngosuku lweSabatha njengokwenza kwakhe, wasukumela ukufunda. Wanikwa incwadi kalzaya umprofethi, wayivula incwadi. Wafumana indawo okulotshwe kuyo ukuthi:

UMoya weNkosi uphezu kwami, ngokuba ingigcobile ukuba ngishumaye ivangeli kwabampofu, ingithumele ukumemezela ukukhululwa kwabathunjweyo, nokubona kwabayizimpumputhe, nokuhlenga abacindezelweyo, nokumemezela unyaka omuhle weNkosi.

Wayigoqonga incwadi, wayinika isikhonzi, wahlala, amehlo abo bonke ababesinagogeni amgqolozela. Waqala ukukhuluma kubo, ethi: Namhla nje ugcwalisekile lombhalo ezindlebeni zenu.

SERMON / INTSHUMAYELO

Professor Sarojini Nadar, Evangelical Lutheran Church

CHORUS / IKHORASI

Yehla Moya oyiNgcwele, usindis' iAfrika (x2)

Usindis' iAfrika (x2)

Yehla Moya oyiNgcwele, usindis' iAfrika

The Holy Spirit must come down, and Africa will be saved (x2)

And Africa will be saved (x2)

The Holy Spirit must come down, and Africa will be saved

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS / IMIKHULEKO YOKUNXUSA

Mr George Augustine, Roman Catholic Church

We pray for abused and neglected children:

Gentle Jesus, look kindly on those children who have been denied the gift of a safe and happy childhood. Protect them from abuse and neglect, and let them find comfort in your love and protection.

Christ, in your mercy,

ALL Hear our prayer.

Help all of us, churches and government, to show sympathy and compassion to troubled children whose words and actions test patience and understanding. Help them to find courage to overcome their fears, so they may learn to trust and love.

Grant those who have young lives entrusted in their care your wisdom and kindness so they may provide the kind of love all children and youth need to grow and mature.

Ngesihawu sakho, Nkosi,

ALL Yizwa ukukhuleka kwethu.

We pray for young people considering suicide:

Jesus Christ, we ask that you help every young person who is suicidal. Guide them so they may receive the help that they need. Protect and prevent them from dying by suicide. We love them, we need them, O God.

Let them feel our love and your love, Jesus Christ. And, God, we ask that you comfort the suicide survivors, ease their pain, give them hope, comfort and guidance. Help them heal.

Help us to understand the seriousness of their depression so we can offer appropriate help as churches and government.

In Jesus' name, we ask.

God, in your mercy,

ALL Hear our prayer.

Ms Linda Zama, Anglican Church

We pray for all involved in education:

We pray for all who teach at schools, tertiary institutions, churches and at homes. God, we pray that we may educate young people to become better citizens of our world and to recognise injustice, oppression and tyranny.

God, in your mercy,

ALL Hear our prayer.

Dear God, we pray that, as we learn, we may find true knowledge, which gives reason and purpose to life. Help us to find happiness and fulfilment as we learn.

Ngesihawu sakho, Nkosi,

ALL Yizwa ukukhuleka kwethu.

Jesu Nkosi yezizwe, ophilayo, Sibonelo sikaNkulunkulu emhlabeni senze nathi sibe yisibonelo emhlabeni. Sihole ukuba sifundise futhi sifunde ngenhlanipho nokubekezela, ngeqiniso nokuzehlisa, singesabi ukufunda ngamaphutha ethu nawabanye.

Sicela usisize usiphe iqiniso nokuqonda.

Sikhuleka eGameni likaJesu Krestu, iNkosi, uMfundisi neSibonelo. Amen

Sovereign Jesus, living Parable of God, make us parables of God to the world.

Guide us to teach and learn with wisdom and patience, with honesty and humility, never afraid to learn from our own mistakes and from others.

Please give us truth and understanding.

We pray in the name of Jesus, our Sovereign, Teacher and Example. Amen

ALL O God of all youth, we pray to you:
We are young people, and we want to celebrate life!
We cry out against all that kills life:
hunger, poverty, unemployment, sickness,
repression, individualism, injustice.

We want to announce fullness of life:
work, education, health, housing,
bread for all.
We want communion, a world renewed,
We hope against hope.
With the God of history we want to make all things new.

HYMN / ICULO

During this hymn a collection will be taken to help cover the costs of the service, please give as generously as possible. / *Ngesikhathi kuhlatshelwa umnikelo ophuma ezinhliziyweni ezivumayo uyoqoqwa ukuhlangabezana nezindleko zenkonzo.*

You gave us, God, by word and deed
The way of love Creator willed
That those who go where'er you lead
May find in you a life fulfilled.

Mangithwale izithelo
ezoMoya oyiNgcwele,
Zonke lezi ezenkolo
Nezothando nezoxolo.

And blessed too are those who mourn
The merciful, the pure of heart,
And those by thirst and hunger torn
That justice hold its rightful part.

Lezizinto mazikhule
Njalonjal' enhliziyweni
Okwegqabo nokomona
Nento eziphuma khona.

We humbly ask your pardon, God;
The ones that hear are all too few.
So speak again your healing word,
Our sin forgive, our heart renew.

DIRECTIONS FOR PROCESSION / INCAZELO NGODWENDWE

The cross will be carried off the platform by women in church leadership. As people leave for the procession, the following hymn is sung. / *Isiphambano sizothwalwa abaholi bamabandla abangabesifazane. Lapho abantu belungela udwendwe lokuphuma leligama liyohlatshelwa.*

HYMN / ICULO

Khangel, uMsindisi wethu
Ebethelw' emthini,
Hayi, uthando olungaka,
Ngokufel' aboni!

*Refrain: Hayi, iMvana eyophayo
Yahlatshelwa thina,
Hayi, uMmeli wabonayo
Wasimela thina.*

Yizwa ethi, 'Thethelela
Labababulali,
Abakwazi lokhu, Baba,
Abakwenze kimi.

Refrain

Wasekhala, 'Thixo wami,
Ungishiyeleni?'
Wagebis' ikhanda lakhe,
Wafa ngenxa yethu.

Refrain

Wasuzamazam' umhlaba
Ekufeni kwakhe
Ilanga lafihlakala,
Aqhephuk' amatshe.

Refrain

Bhek' icala lihlawulwe
Ngobuhlungu bakhe,
Nakithina uzwakele
Lowomusa wakhe.

Refrain

**PROCESSION THROUGH THE STREETS /
INHLABALUHIDE YODWENDWE EMIGWAQWENI**

The cross is carried through the streets to the City Hall in a solemn, silent procession. A large group of young people holding smaller rough crosses with the theme will walk holding their crosses upright up to the City Hall. / *Isiphambano siyothwalwa emigwaqeni ebheke kwiHholo ledolobha ngenhlalaluhide enokuthula. Isigejana samalunga olusha siyophakamisa iziphambano ezincane emigwaqeni ezinengqikithikazi yenkonzo ezilotshiwe eziyokuba yisikhumbuzo senkonzo.*

**SERVICE IN FRONT OF THE CITY HALL /
INKONZO NGAPHAMBI KWEHLOLEDOLOBHA**

When the procession arrives in the open space in front of the City Hall, the congregation assembles around the cross as directed by the ushers as the choir sings. / *Ngenkathi udwendwe lufika ebaleni eliphambi kweHholo ledolobha, ibandla liyohlangana ngaphambi kwesiphambano ngokulawulwa ngabalawuli [ushers], bese ikwaya icula.*

PRAYER OF AFFIRMATION / UMKHULEKO WOKUVUMA

Revd Stephen Tully, Roman Catholic Church

God of power, God of people,
You are the life of all that lives
the energy that fills the earth, vitality that brings to birth,
the impetus toward making whole whatever is bruised or broken.
In you we grow to know the truth that sets all creation free.
You are the song the whole earth sings,
the promise liberation brings.
Fill us with your life, your energy, your vitality,
that we may work with you to make all peoples whole.
Free us to live your truth.
to sing your song
to bring your liberation now and forever.

**FLOWERING OF THE CROSS /
UKUCHONYWA KWEZIMBALI ESIPHAMBANWENI**

People are invited to come up to place a flower on the cross and while the cross is being flowered, hymns will be sung. / *Amalunga ebandla ayacelwa ukuba abeke izimbali esiphambanweni, bese ibandla liyacula.*

For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us, God into freedom, from despair our world release,
that redeemed from war and hatred all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas keeping us apart.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.



Who will save our land and people?
Who can rescue us from wrong?
We are lost – faint, false and foolish –
We have slighted God too long.
Save the people, Lord our Saviour,
Guide us home from country far
Holy Fire, consume our rancours
Thy kingdom come – in Africa.

Ngiyalidumis' igazi
LikaJesu uMsindisi
Alichitha kabuhlungu,
Ngamhla ejuluk' igazi.
Walijulukiswa yimi
Ngazo zonk' izono zami.
Shwele gazi loMsindisi
Elachithwa ngenxa yami.

Ons vertrou op God ons Redder,
Christus maak ons land weer heel;
Deur die Kerk, U eie dienaars,
Strek God's hand oor die planeet.
Mag die Kerk in liefde dien,
Almal seën in nood en pyn;
Laat ons saamstaan en verkondig:
"Christus se lig sal vir ons skyn."

Christ enough to break all barriers,
Christ enough in peace, in strife,
Christ enough to build our nation,
Christ enough for death, for life,
Christ enough for old and lonely,
Christ enough for those who fall,
Christ enough to save the sin-sick,
Christ enough for one; for all.



Guide me o thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

Lowomthombo wosindiso
Owavulwa ngenxa yami;
Mawuvele umpompoze,
Uzihlanz' izono zami.
O Msindisi!
Nguwe olusizo lwami.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside,
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Lead me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee.



To God be the glory, great things God has done,
So loved God the world that He gave us his Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain: Praise to God! Praise to God!
Let the earth hear God's voice!
Praise to God! Praise to God!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
And give God the glory, great things God has done!*

Sithengiwe ngokuhlulwa ngegazi,
Lidinga loThixo kwabakholwayo,
Nakoyena obe ngomkhul' umoni,
Uxolelwa nguYesu ngalomzuzu.

*Refrain: Dumisan' iNkosi, phulaphula hlaba,
Dumisan' iNkosi, mabavuy' abantu
Yizani kuYise ngoYes' uNyana
Nimnike uzuko ngokwenza kwakhe*

Great things God has taught us, great things God has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

When the cross is flowered, there will be a pause, people are asked to keep silence with no singing. Then the cross will be raised to shouts of... / *Ngesikhathi sokufakwa kwezimbali esiphambanweni kuyoba nokuthula okwesikhashana, abantu bonke bayacelwa babe nokuthula, emva kwalokho isiphambano siyaphakanyiswa...*

**God will reign! Alleluia!
Christ is our hope! Alleluia!
The Spirit is at work! Alleluia!**

HYMN / ICULO

O Thou, my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

*Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee:
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.*

Ngibabaza okwenzileyo Nkosi
Umlaba lo osenzele wona.
Ezulwini ngibon' izinkanyezi,
Nay' imvula ivel' ezulwini.

*Refrain: Umoya wami uyakudumisa
Umukhulu Simakade
Umoya wami uyakudumisa
Umukhulu Simakade.*

U Seun word mens, in ons gebroke werêld,
Kom vestig Hy sy koningsheerskappy.
Hy maak weer reg wat sonde hier geskend het,
Hy bring weer hoop en redding ook vir my.

*Refrain: Dan moet ek juig, my Redder en my God!
Hoe groot is U! Hoe groot is U!
Want deur die hele skepping klink dit saam:
Hoe groot O God, hoe groot U naam!*

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

Refrain

PRAYERS OF COMMITMENT / UKUZINIKELA

Cardinal Wilfrid Napier OFM, Archdiocese of Durban, and
Ms Almut Hinz, Vikarin, Bremische Evangelische Kirche, Germany

- LEADER God of Bounty and Beauty,
You have called us to be stewards of all life:
- ALL **We commit ourselves today to work for justice, peace and the integrity of CREATION**
- LEADER Jesus, Prince of Peace,
You have called us to turn our swords into ploughshares:
- ALL **We commit ourselves today to strive for PEACE in the world.**
- LEADER God of all Wisdom,
You have called us to enrich the lives of one another:
- ALL **We commit ourselves today to spread the light of knowledge and EDUCATION in our land.**
- LEADER Jesus, our Compassionate Friend,
You have called us to be bearers of the Gospel of hope and love:
- ALL **We commit ourselves today to bring comfort to those DISTRAUGHT in body, soul and spirit.**

LEADER Almighty God, Protector and Preserver of all,
You have called us to embrace stranger and friend in equal measure:

ALL **We commit ourselves today to end all forms of DISCRIMINATION and work to create one human family.**

LEADER Jesus, our Sustainer and Healer,
You have called us to minister in word and deed:

ALL **We commit ourselves today to serving you to eradicate POVERTY and DISEASE in our time.**

LEADER Loving and Eternal God,
You created women in your own image:

ALL **We commit ourselves today to working towards an end to every form of violence against WOMEN.**

LEADER Gentle Jesus, Meek and Mild,
You took children up in your arms and blessed them:

ALL **We commit ourselves today to bringing an end to cruelty and abuse of all CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE.**

ALL **God Almighty
We offer ourselves to you
As a living sacrifice
In Jesus who is the Christ.
Send us out into the world
In the power of the Holy Spirit
To live and work
To your praise and glory. AMEN**

CHORUS / IKHORASI

God bless Africa
God bless Africa
Guard her children
Guide her leaders
And give her peace.
God bless Africa
God bless Africa,
Guard her children,
Guide her leaders
And give her peace.

BENEDICTION / ISIBUSISO

Bishop Mike Vorster, Methodist Church, Natal Coastal District

As we prepare to leave,
and embrace the challenges
of our lives and our world,
let us ask for God's blessing.

May God bless us with strength
to seek justice. **Amen**

May God bless us with wisdom
to care for our earth. **Amen**

May God bless us with love
to bring forth new life. **Amen**

In the name of God, the maker of the whole world,
of Jesus, our new covenant,
and of the Holy Spirit, who opens eyes and hearts. **Amen**

Go in peace and be witnesses to hope:
Thanks be to God.

As people leave, there is a further opportunity to contribute
towards the costs of this service. / *Ngesikhathi ibandla*
lihlakazeka kuzobanethuba lokunikela okuqondene nezindleko zenkonzo.