



## **PRESIDER'S BOOK**

# **Mercy Day Liturgy**

**Mercy International Centre  
64a Lower Baggot St, Dublin, Ireland**

**12.00 p.m. – Saturday, 24 September**

### **PRELUDE**

(beginning at 11.30 a.m.)

#### **LiveStream**

- Welcome Mary Reynolds rsm, executive director of Mercy International Association
- Greetings from Leaders and Chair of Board
- Images of people arriving
- Images of pre recorded images of house and artefacts
- Litany of Mercy composed by Mary Wickham rsm

#### **Chapel:**

Organ music by **Prof Gerard Gillen**

Professor Emeritus in Music at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth  
& titular organist of Dublin's Pro-Cathedral

## WELCOME & OPENING PROCESSION

**WELCOME:** Mary Reynolds rsm, Executive Director of Mercy International Association – includes reference to the candles & water vessels, and introduces them of pilgrim journey

**PROCESSION:** From Front Door – Official Door of Mercy – into the chapel

- 5 Candle Bearers – Candle representing each of the 5 continents of the world where Mercy is present: Europe, Australia/Oceania, Americas, Asia, Africa
- 7 Water Vessel Bearers – Water Vessels used in 1994 dedication of this house as Mercy International Centre – representatives of the 7 Mercy congregational families: Ireland, Great Britain, Australia, Americas, Newfoundland, Aotearoa New Zealand, Philippines
- Word
- Presider: **John Byrne OSA, Director of Orlagh Augustinian Retreat House, Dublin**

**MUSIC:** Prof Gerard Gillen, organist & Rosaleen Hogan rsm, cantor

**ENTRANCE SONG:** *Gather* by Liam Lawton (©1996)

1. Gather from the East, gather from the West,  
Gather from the highways too.  
Gather from the North, gather from the South,  
Gather when the night is noon.

Ref: *And we'll gather and we shall reap,  
and no longer in sadness we'll weep.  
And we'll gather, and we shall reap,  
resting, rising, calling, guiding, O Lord.*

2. Gather all the needy, gather all in pain  
Gather all who cry in vain.  
Gather all the thirsty, gather all the poor,  
Gather all in Jesus' name. [R]

3. Gather all forgotten, gather all forlorn.  
Gather all who weep and mourn.  
Gather all the silent, gather all who sing,  
Gather all the hearts reborn. [R]

**MARY REYNOLDS RSM:** *(Adapted from Misericordia Vultus)*

With sentiments of gratitude for the gift of Mercy we have received, we now in spirit cross the threshold of the Holy Door, fully confident that the strength of the risen Lord, who constantly supports us on our pilgrim way will sustain us. May the Holy Spirit, who guides the steps of believers lead the way and support us so that we may contemplate the face of mercy.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### **PRESIDER – John Byrne OSA:**

The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Our procession from the main door into the chapel today represents the pilgrim journey that each of us is travelling. Pope Francis has prayed that pilgrimage will be for us an impetus to conversion. In that spirit we call to mind our need for God's Mercy:

### **Sung Kyrie:**

✚ For the times when we fail to embrace God's mercy

**A Thiarna, déan trócaire;**

✚ For the times when we fail to dedicate ourselves to being merciful

**A Chríost, déan trócaire;**

✚ For the times when we fall into indifference to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor

**A Thiarna, déan trócaire**

### **PRESIDER – John Byrne OSA:**

May the God of Mercy, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. *[Amen.]*

Blessed water is sprinkled on the congregation.

### **Opening Prayer:**

### **PRESIDER – John Byrne OSA:**

O God, your mercy is without limit.

Following the example and through the prayers of Our Lady of Mercy, Enable us to be messengers and servants of your mercy to all people, especially the poor.

May we live according to your will

and one day arrive, rejoicing in your presence.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. *[Amen.]*

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading:** 1 John 4:7-9,11-12

**PROCLAIMED IN SPANISH**

### **A Reading from the first letter of John:**

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God;  
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.  
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:  
    God sent his only Son into the world  
    so that we might have life through him.  
Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.  
No one has ever seen God.  
Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,  
and God's love is brought to perfection in us.

The Word of God.

[Thanks be to God.]

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:     Like a Shepherd** by Bob Dufford SJ (©1976)

Ref: *Like a Shepherd He feeds His flock  
and gathers the lambs in His arms.  
Holding them carefully close to His heart,  
leading them home.*

1. Say to the cities of Judah, "Prepare the way of the Lord!  
Go to the mountaintop! Lift your voice!  
Jerusalem, here is your God!" [R]
2. "I Myself will shepherd them for others have lead them astray.  
The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds  
and pasture them giving them rest." [R]
3. "Come unto Me if you are heavily burdened  
And take My yoke upon your shoulders.  
I will give you rest." [R]

## Second Reading:

### A reading from *Tender Courage* by Joanna Regan rsm & Isabelle Keiss rsm

Catherine's absorption in the Word of God, written and incarnate, called her to imitate the example of Jesus in translating the love of God to others.

In her experience of her own limitations, Catherine found a God of love, a hidden God, whose healing grace helped her transcend her frustrations, bitterness and weaknesses and enabled her to translate her own pain into a deep compassion for others. In this compassion, she experienced the alleviating effect created by her willing entry into the pain of others.

Catherine somehow grasped intuitively that mercy is gift given in response to need, neither earned nor deserved. She did not shrink from the demands mercy places on whoever would extend it. She knew that rendering the merciful service was not an act of beneficence, but one of gratitude to God for mercy received.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

### **Pilgrim Song** by Liam Lawton (©2000)

Alle, Allelu, Alleluia (x4)  
Speak, O Lord your servant here is listening.  
You have the message of eternal life. (x2)  
Alle, Allelu, Alleluia (x4)

**Gospel:** Mark 6:30-44

**A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark:**

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them.

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat."

But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?"

And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled; and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

The Gospel of the Lord.

[Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.]

**Breaking Open of the Word:** **Mary Kay Dobrovolny rsm**

Assistant Director, Mercy International Association

## RENEWAL OF COMMITMENT

(Led by Mary Reynolds rsm – Executive Director, Mercy International Association)

### MARY:

Pope Francis says that in this Year of Mercy,  
‘the Holy Door will become a Door of Mercy  
through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God.’  
You are now invited to be guardians of the Door of Mercy.

Response to each question: ‘I will.’

Will you as a doorkeeper hold wide the door to invite Mercy to come in to be with us? *‘I will.’*

Will you as doorkeeper hold wide the door to invite those who are hungry, thirsty, imprisoned, sick, strangers, or naked to come in to find Mercy? *‘I will.’*

Will you as doorkeeper help us find new ways of being Mercy on an Earth and among a people crying out for justice? *‘I will.’*

Will you as doorkeeper guide us into a holy place of contemplation and vision? *‘I will.’*

And so let us renew our vows and commitments as Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Associates and Partners in Mercy.

### *Sisters of Mercy*

*Loving God, in the presence of this community of Mercy, we renew the vows we made at our profession as Sisters of Mercy,*

*We recommit ourselves to a life of celibate chastity for the sake of your reign. We give ourselves in love to our sisters in community, to those in need, to our family and friends.*

*We recommit ourselves to a life of gospel poverty. We strive to live simply and to seek unity of mind and heart in sharing all we have. We value the resources of Earth and desire to use them in harmony and interdependence with all creation.*

*We recommit ourselves to a life of obedience. We desire to inform our minds, prepare our hearts for dialogue, listen to one another in love, and accept conversion to your will.*

*We recommit ourselves to a life of service through the works of mercy.*

*Encouraged and sustained by the fidelity of this community of Mercy, we rejoice in the continued invitation to seek justice, to be compassionate and to reflect your mercy in our world.*

### ***Mercy Associates and Partners in Mercy***

*On this Mercy Day, and in imitation of Catherine McAuley, a woman who responded to God's call to reach out in compassion to those around her, especially those in need, I wish to answer God's call to me to discover and reveal the loving kindness of God in all the circumstances of my life.*

*I accept the challenge to live the Gospel of Jesus  
And to be a person of Mercy,  
Visible in the world today.*

*Open my eyes to see the suffering  
In the poor, forgotten and marginalized.*

*May the God of all Mercy bless us; and may Catherine the first Sister of Mercy, accompany us and inspire us as we commit ourselves anew in mercy.*

**Sung Response    Suscipe of Catherine McAuley** (by Elaine Deasy rsm ©1994)

*Ref: My God,  
I am yours for time and eternity,  
Lord, I am yours forever.  
It is you who must teach me to trust in your Providence,  
Loving Lord.*



1. You are a God of love and tenderness.  
I place my trust in you,  
And I ask that you grant me acceptance of your will,  
Loving Lord.
2. Take from my heart all painful anxiety.  
Let nothing sadden me but sin.  
And then let my delight be hoping to see your face,  
God, my all.       *[Ref.]*

## INTERCESSIONS

### **PRESIDER – John Byrne OSA:**

**In the words of Pope Francis, ‘It is time for the Church to take up the joyful call to mercy once more. It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters.’ Ready to respond to this call to mercy, we pray for the needs of our world.**

**Our response is: *‘May we be signs of your Mercy.’***

**Reader 1:** Your people hunger for food and love, for education and adequate health care, for freedom and safety. Your people thirst for justice, for clean water, and so we pray...

**Reader 2:** Your people long to be known, they long for a homeland, for right relationships, for welcome. They long to see your face. Your people suffer from ills of body, mind and spirit. Your Earth suffers from pollution and degradation and so we pray...

**Reader 1:** Your people are imprisoned in unjust structures and political regimes, in dangerous relationships, in demeaning work environments. Your people seek compassion, comfort, companionship and counsel and so we pray...

**Reader 2:** Your people grieve the loss of life, whether by war and violence, natural disaster, tragic accident, illness, disease, and the aging process. Your people seek comfort and consolation, peace and wholeness and so we pray...

**Reader 1:** You have called us Mercy, to be responsive to the needs of Earth and of all people and so we pray...

**PRESIDER – John Byrne OSA:**

**Each time we cross the threshold of this Holy Door, our God, may we be reminded that we are indeed called to the ministry of Mercy. We ask for the grace to live lives worthy of this call – to be signs, in active and practical ways, of the tender love with which you embrace us all. In this Holy Year strengthen our resolve to work for the transformation of our world to a place where all know themselves to be blessed and welcomed as you welcome us to this holy place and time. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

### Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts

#### **INSTRUMENTAL ORGAN MUSIC:**

**Prof Gerard Gillen**

Professor Emeritus in Music at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth  
& titular organist of Dublin's Pro-Cathedral

**Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the bread we offer you:  
fruit of the earth and work of human hands,  
it will become for us the bread of life.**

*[Blessed be God for ever.]*

By the mystery of this water and wine  
may we come to share in the divinity of Christ  
who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

**Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
for through your goodness we have received  
the wine we offer you:  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands,  
it will become our spiritual drink.**

*[Blessed be God for ever.]*

**With humble spirit and contrite heart  
may we be accepted by you, O Lord,  
and may our sacrifice in your sight this day  
be pleasing to you, Lord God.**

Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

**Pray, my friends, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.**

*[May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.]*

## Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, receive the gifts of your people,  
and grant that as we look up to Mary, Mother of Mercy,  
we may show ourselves merciful to others  
and receive your pardon toward us.  
Through Christ our Lord.      *[Amen.]*

## Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation 1

The Lord be with you.	<i>[And with your spirit.]</i>
Lift up your hearts.	<i>[We lift them up to the Lord.]</i>
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	<i>[It is right and just.]</i>

It is truly right and just, that we should always give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you do not cease to spur us on  
to possess a more abundant life  
and, being rich in mercy,  
you constantly offer pardon  
and call on sinners to trust in your forgiveness.

Never did you turn away from us,  
and, though time and again we have broken your covenant,  
you have bound the human family to yourself  
through Jesus your Son our Redeemer,  
with a new bond of love so tight  
that it can never be undone.

Even now you set before your people  
a time of grace and reconciliation,  
and, as they turn back to you in spirit,  
you grant them hope in Christ Jesus  
and a desire to be of service to all,  
while they entrust themselves  
more fully to the Holy Spirit.

And so, filled with wonder,  
we extol the power of your love,  
and, proclaiming our joy  
at the salvation that comes from you  
we join in the heavenly hymn of countless  
hosts, as without end we acclaim:

**HOLY:**      *Is Naofa Thú* by Sean O’Riada (© 1968)

Is naofa, naofa, naofa thu'  
A Thiarna Dia na slua.  
Tá neamh agus talamh Ián de do ghlóir,  
Hósanna ‘sna harda.  
Is beannaithe ‘n té ‘tá ag teacht in ainm an Tiarna,  
Hósanna ‘sna harda.

You are indeed Holy, O God,  
who love the human race  
and who always walk with us on the journey of life.  
Blessed indeed is your Son, present in our midst  
when we are gathered by his love  
and when, as once for the disciples,  
so now for us, he opens the Scriptures  
and breaks the bread.

Therefore, Father most merciful,  
we ask that you send forth your Holy Spirit  
to sanctify these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may become for us  
the Body and + Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the day before he was to suffer,  
on the night of the Last Supper,  
he took bread and said the blessing,  
broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying:

✠ TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY,  
WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

**In a similar way, when supper was ended,  
he took the chalice, gave you thanks  
and gave the chalice to his disciples, saying:**

**✠ TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT,  
FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD,  
THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT,  
WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY  
FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.  
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

**The mystery of faith.**

**MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:**    *Save Us, Saviour of the World*  
by Liam Lawton (Glendalough Mass, ©2010)

Save us, Saviour of the world. Save us, Saviour of the world.  
For by your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free, You have set us free.

**Therefore, holy Father,  
as we celebrate the memorial of Christ your Son, our Saviour,  
whom you led through his Passion and Death on the Cross  
to the glory of the Resurrection,  
and whom you have seated at your right hand,  
we proclaim the work of your love until he comes again  
and we offer you the Bread of life and the Chalice of blessing.**

**Look with favour on the oblation of your Church,  
in which we show forth the paschal Sacrifice of Christ  
that has been handed on to us,  
and grant that, by the power of the Spirit of your love,  
we may be counted now and until the day of eternity  
among the members of your Son,  
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.**

**Be pleased to keep us always in communion of mind and heart,  
together with Francis our Pope, Diarmuid our Bishop.  
Help us to work together for the coming of your Kingdom,  
until the hour when we stand before you,  
Saints among the Saints in the halls of heaven,  
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy,  
with Joseph her faithful spouse,  
the blessed Apostles and all the Saints,  
and with our deceased brothers and sisters,  
whom we humbly commend to your mercy.**

**Then, freed at last from all wounds  
and made fully into a new creation,  
we shall sing to you with gladness  
the thanksgiving of Christ,  
who lives for all eternity.**

**Through him, and with him, and in him,  
O God, almighty Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours,  
for ever and ever.**

**SUNG AMEN**

## The Communion Rite

**At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:**

*Our Father...*

**Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
Graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin, and safe from all distress,  
As we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

*For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.*

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
Look not on our sins,  
But on the faith of your Church,  
And graciously grant her peace and unity  
In accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.** *[Amen.]*

**The peace of the Lord be with you always.** *[And with your spirit.]*  
**Let us offer each other the sign of peace.**

May this mingling of the Body and Blood  
Of our Lord Jesus Christ  
Bring eternal life to us who receive it.

### **SUNG Lamb of God**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,  
Who, by the will of the Father  
And the work of the Holy Spirit,  
Through your Death gave life to the world,  
Free me by this, your most holy body and Blood,  
From all my sins and from every evil;  
Keep me always faithful to your commandments,  
And never let me be parted from you.



**Behold the Lamb of God,  
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

*Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed*

**Communion Song:           **Though We Are Many****  
by Bernard Sexton (© 2010 by IEC2012)

*Though we are many, we are one body.  
We who come to share this living bread;  
Cup of salvation, shared among all nations,  
nourishing us now and evermore.*

We gather in this place  
round the table of the Lord.  
Christ's presence is revealed  
in our communion and his Living Word.

Now our communion recalls  
Christ's death and resurrection.  
This living sacrifice  
is our salvation now and evermore.

And through this shared Eucharist  
we are the living Church.  
We witness to Christ's love  
His living body active in our world.

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**O Lord, we have been refreshed and strengthened by your holy mysteries. Through this celebration,  
enable us to continue to show mercy to each other and to the world.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.           *[Amen].***

## CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you.

*[And with your spirit.]*

May God, who in Christ Jesus has shown us his mercy and love, make you messengers of the Gospel and witnesses to his Mercy before the entire world.

*[Amen.]*

May the Lord Jesus Christ, who promised that he would be with you always, guide your steps and lead you in his ways.

*[Amen.]*

May the Spirit of the Lord be upon you, enabling you as you go through the world, to being the Good News to the lowly and to heal the broken-hearted.

*[Amen.]*

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. *[Amen.]*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*[Thanks be to God.]*

### CLOSING SONG: **When Creation Was Begun** (Author and composer unknown)

The musical score is written on a treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of three lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "When cre - a - tion w-as be - gun, God had cho - sen you to be, Moth - er of his bl - ess - ed Son, Ho - ly Ma - ry fu - ll of grace. Av - e Av - e Av - e Ma - ri - a." The chords are indicated above the notes: G, C, D, G, C, Am, D, G, Am, C, D, G, G, D, C, G, C, D, G.

1. When creation was restored  
You were there beside the Lord  
Whom you cherished and adored  
Holy Mary full of grace  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

2. Lead us to your child above  
He will teach us how to love  
How to pity and forgive  
Holy Mary full of grace  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

3. All of us are children too,  
Often doubtful what to do,  
Needing to confide in you.  
Holy Mary full of grace  
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

## Appendix

### LITANY OF MERCY\*

by Mary Wickham rsm

Creator God- Maker and Source of Mercy- *all praise to You.*

Jesus - exemplar and champion of Mercy- *all praise to You.*

Spirit- artist and animator of Mercy- *all praise to You.*

Out of the profound silence of Your Presence we murmur the words of Mercy:

- ❖ Rahamim: the womb love- *inscribe it on our hearts.*
- ❖ Heseb: the loving kindness- *inscribe it on our hearts.*
- ❖ Eleos: the healing oil- *inscribe it on our hearts.*
- ❖ the words of tenderness and empathy- *inscribe them on our hearts.*
- ❖ the words of tolerance and forgiveness- *inscribe them on our hearts.*
- ❖ the words of justice and faithfulness- *inscribe them on our hearts.*

In the encounters of the life of Jesus we find our Mercy meaning:

- ❖ the woman with the alabaster jar- *may we meet as Jesus met.*
- ❖ the rich young man- *may we meet as Jesus met.*
- ❖ the little girl brought to life- *may we meet as Jesus met.*
- ❖ the three at Bethany- *may we meet as Jesus met.*
- ❖ the lepers, the outcasts, the lost- *may we meet as Jesus met.*

In the imagination of Jesus we find our Mercy inspiration:

- ❖ the one sheep who went missing- *may we do as Jesus told it.*
- ❖ the son who was welcomed home- *may we do as Jesus told it.*
- ❖ the vineyard workers, late and early- *may we do as Jesus told it.*
- ❖ the treasure buried in the field- *may we do as Jesus told it.*
- ❖ the only one who stopped to help- *may we do as Jesus told it.*

In the life of our forebears we recognise Mercy:

- ❖ for Mary of Nazareth and Calvary- *we thank You.*
- ❖ for Catherine McAuley, woman of Dublin- *we thank You.*
- ❖ for our founders and pioneers, the near and the far- *we thank You.*
- ❖ for our holy ones and wisdom figures- *we thank You.*
- ❖ for the heroic and the humble- *we thank You.*

With all Your creation we share our life in Mercy:

- ❖ the feather and the fur - *we respect and cherish.*
- ❖ the waterway and the breeze- *we respect and cherish.*
- ❖ the rock and the leaf- *we respect and cherish.*
- ❖ the fish and the star- *we respect and cherish.*
- ❖ the flame and the stalk- *we respect and cherish.*

The colour of mercy- *we celebrate.*  
the shape of mercy- *we celebrate.*  
the mystery of mercy- *we celebrate.*  
the arenas of mercy- *we celebrate.*

The unfinished chapters - *we pledge mercy.*  
the unmet need- *we pledge mercy.*  
the violence, the horror- *we pledge mercy.*  
the urgent immensities- *we pledge mercy.*  
the cries, the silences, the aches and injuries- *we pledge mercy.*

In Your name, with Your help, by Your hand.  
In the large days and ordinary ways,  
alone and together, we are people for Mercy.

Mercy calls us- **Mercy calls us.**  
Mercy guides us-**Mercy guides us.**  
Mercy sustains us-**Mercy sustains us.**

**Amen.**

*\*A reader or one section of the group reads the main text, the rest respond with the bold type.*