God, we hear you calling to us, “Time to make things new!
Share my love with all creation: fresh as morning dew.”
We are praying for your pow’r, blessing what we sow this hour,
bringing faith and love and hope to bloom in glorious flow’r.

After rising from the waters, underneath the dove,
Jesus, you began to teach us how to share your love.
On this day let all we do, be done as if done to you.
Modeling on earth the joys of life in heav’n above.

Holy Spirit, with your pow’r blow each barrier down
that would hinder us from meeting any need we’ve found.
Grateful for each grace you give, help us help our neighbors live,
joined together, working, singing, as your gifts abound.

Everyone who’s called to service in God’s name today
has been given by the Spirit special roles to play.
Let us serve where Christ calls us, following with joyful trust.
Move out now into the world and emulate Christ’s way!

(For use in the congregation on the day of service itself, or earlier as preparation.)

Prelude

Call to Worship and Service
Today we reflect on our call to be servants, as we prepare to act in
the name of Christ to do good.

We do not do good to those around us.
We do not do good for those around us.
We seek to do good with those around us.

As we serve, who stands – or sits – in the place of Jesus? Who “gets to be Jesus” in this situation?

It is not we who stand in Jesus’ place. It is those we serve.

As we do it for – and with – the least of those who are members of Jesus’ family, we do it for and with Jesus.

Yet we are the hands and feet of Christ. So we too sit and stand in the place of Jesus.
Let the Jesus in me speak to the Jesus in you.
Let the Jesus in me receive from the Jesus in you.

It is all about Jesus.
And it is all about those whom we serve.
And it is about us, too.

God loves in a holy Trinity. We are welcomed into that relationship as lover and as beloved. Thanks be to God!

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God’s love is ours to share with all the world in need; all equal in God’s eyes, yet seeking dignity.
In humble thanks, we reach out to our brothers, sisters through God’s grace.

We serve so others grow and find their paths to live a life where needs are met and all their dreams fulfilled; And loose the chains, that limit the abundance given in God’s reign.

We serve because we’re loved, forgiven and made new; A love that flows through us to those that need love too. God’s hope, we know is healing in this world so all may be made whole.

We thank you, gracious God, for this the work you give, May we be faithful servants in the lives we live.
You bless us still; for those we serve help us to better know your will.

He comes to us in these our days, sending us out to walk his ways. “In reaching out to help ones live you will receive more than you give.”

“Open your eyes and you will see much in the world to do for me; children to teach, gardens to till, the lost to reach, and mouths to fill.”

He comes to us to calm our fear. “Peace be to you,” he whispers near. “As I sent them, now I send you into the world my work to do.”

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
(may include descriptions of the Day of Service activities)

SCRIPTURE:
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Matthew 20:1-16

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (service)

HYMN
TALLIS’ CANON (22 T)

He came to them to calm their fear. “Peace be to you,” he whispered near. “As God sent me, now I send you into the world my work to do.”

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