

## **CLOSING WORSHIP**

*A HYMN or SONG may be included here*

You are the body of Christ,  
and each one of you is a part of it.  
To each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given  
for the common good.

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that we are all members  
of your body here on earth.  
We thank you for the gifts of the Holy Spirit  
that equip us to work for you.**

**As we offer ourselves to your service,  
help us to value one another's gifts,  
to work together effectively,  
and to have a true partnership in the Gospel  
as we seek to live for your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

Diocese of York

**Generous Churches Making and Nurturing Disciples**

# *Five Marks of Growing Churches*

**Worship Material  
for  
Session Three**

# **Partnership**

# OPENING WORSHIP

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth:

**Worship the LORD with gladness.**

Come into his presence with singing:

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving.**

Enter his courts with praise:

**Give thanks to him and bless his name.**

*A HYMN or SONG may be included here*

## BIBLE READING:

*1 Corinthians 12 (Good News Bible)*

<sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

<sup>5</sup>There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. <sup>6</sup>There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. <sup>7</sup>The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

<sup>12</sup>Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. <sup>13</sup>In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup>For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts.

<sup>15</sup>If the foot were to say, "Because I am not a hand, I don't belong to the body," that would not keep it from being a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear were to say, "Because I am not an eye, I don't belong to the body," that would not keep it from being a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were just an eye, how could it hear? And if it were only an ear, how could it smell? <sup>18</sup>As it is, however, God put every different part in the body just as he wanted it to be. <sup>19</sup>There would not be a body if it were all only one part! <sup>20</sup>As it is, there are many parts but one body.

<sup>21</sup>So then, the eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" Nor can the head say to the feet, "Well, I don't need you!" <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, we cannot do without the parts of the body that seem to be weaker; <sup>25</sup>And so there is no division in the body, but all its different parts have the same concern for one another.

<sup>26</sup>If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness. <sup>27</sup>All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

*1 Corinthians 12.4-7,12-22,25-27*

*A HYMN or SONG may be included here*

## CONCLUSION

Lord Jesus, as we gather in your name:

**Inspire us and guide us by your Spirit.**

May all that we think and do and say:

**Bring glory to your holy name.**

May blessing and honour and glory and power:

**Be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**