**Liturgical resources**

These are resources you could use in a service with a focus on disability.

You will find

Welcome and call to worship

Confession

Creed

Peace

Eucharistic liturgy

Blessing

Welcome and call to worship

We are the body of Christ,

**and each of us is a part of it.**

There is one body and one Spirit,

**we are all called to one hope.**

Let us build up the body of Christ in this place,

**until we each attain the whole measure of the fulness of Christ.**

**Lord,**

**we come as we are,**

**bringing our diversity,**

**bringing our differences,**

**our talents and strengths,**

**our weakness and struggle.**

**We place all that we are in your hands,**

**that we may be one in spirit and truth,**

**and your Kingdom may come**

**through our unity in Jesus Christ. Amen**

Confession

We confess the sin that separates, marginalises and diminishes so many in our world, and seek to be people of justice for all of God’s children.

Where people are judged and disregarded

because of their embodiment or understanding.

Lord, forgive us,

**and give us a new vision of justice and grace**

Where people are feared and ostracised

because of their colour or origin.

Lord, forgive us,

**and give us a new vision of justice and grace**

Where people are disrespected and abused

because of their gender or orientation.

Lord, forgive us,

**and give us a new vision of justice and grace**

Where people are misunderstood and demonised

because of their faith or belief.

Lord, forgive us,

**and give us a new vision of justice and grace**

Where people are unwelcome and excluded

because they are seen as different and disruptive.

Lord, forgive us,

**and give us a new vision of justice and grace**

**Lord, forgive us,**

**for all the times we fail to see you in those we meet,**

**for all the times that fear and prejudice prevail,**

**for all the times we pass you by with judgemental hearts.**

**Bless and renew us to be people of justice and grace,**

**that your kingdom may come amongst us,**

**and we may take our place with all humanity**

**in the diversity and joy of heaven. Amen**

May God forgive you,

and raise you up

to seek justice, love mercy,

and walk humbly in his way;

through Christ our Lord. Amen

Creed

**We believe in God the Father,**

**who spoke creation into being,**

**formed humankind in his image,**

**and declared all of creation to be ‘very good.’**

**We believe in God the Son,**

**who welcomed the outcast and stranger,**

**bore the disabling wounds of crucifixion,**

**and rose to be our disabled saviour.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the all-encompassing power of God,**

**who transforms our hearts and renews our spirits,**

**and brings beauty to birth in all God’s people.**

**We believe in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**

**the Trinity of love and grace,**

**who invites each of us into the divine dance of love,**

**and makes all things beautiful in their time. Amen**

**The peace**

The risen Christ stood among his disciples and said: ‘Peace be with you.’

Then he showed them his wounded hands and side and they were overjoyed.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,

**and also with you.**

**Eucharistic liturgy**

Bread from the field and the oven,

wine from the vine and the grape.

We give them to God,

that he may feed us

and give us life.

The Lord is here

**His Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give thanks and praise**

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Stars and planets,

land and sea,

plants and animals,

and humankind, male and female, made in God’s image.

And God said: This is very good.

For a sacred purpose lay at the heart of all things,

and God’s image shone in the hearts of humankind,

and every possibility of creation was filled with divine potential.

Let us join with the chorus of creation and declare the glory of God.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord**

**God of power and might**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

**Hosanna in the highest**

But as humankind, we did not realise our own potential.

We became judgemental.

We judged some to be strong and some to be weak.

We devalued and marginalised and cast out those we did not understand.

And we crushed the divine potential that God has planted in every heart.

And God mourned for the lives we snuffed out and the hearts we left broken.

And God said:

‘I have seen how the weak are oppressed and the needy are groaning.

I will come to my people.

I will protect them from all who oppress them.’

And so, in the fullness of time, Jesus came, declaring:

‘Blessed are the poor.

Blessed are the meek.

Blessed are all who are judged and marginalised and cast out.

Come to me and I will give you rest.’

Jesus walked with the marginalised and oppressed.

He welcomed the disabled and disfigured,

and said: ‘The Kingdom of God is here.’

Jesus walked the way of the cross.

The way of brokenness.

The way of weakness and pain and disfigurement,

and opened his arms to welcome all humankind to the kingdom banquet.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends,

he took bread.

He broke it and shared it, saying:

‘This is my body, broken for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.’

As the meal came to an end, he took a cup of wine.

He blessed it and handed it to each, saying:

‘This is my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.’

Let us declare the mystery of our faith

**Christ has died**

**Christ is risen**

**Christ will come again**

Lord our God,

we pray your blessing on this bread and wine.

May they be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who, with his broken and disabled body,

rose from death and walked amongst us,

and ascended to your right-hand in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Planting the fullness of our human experience at your very heart,

and opening the kingdom to all.

May we as your church, in our Communion and fellowship,

be a foretaste of the kingdom banquet,

where grace abounds and all of humanity is united

and old and young, weak and strong, able and disabled

together reflect your image

in the wounded and disabled, yet risen and glorious, Body of Christ.

Let us declare God’s glory

**Blessing and honour and glory and power,**

**be yours, for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body**

**because we all share in one bread.**

God says: ‘Come.’

Come to my table.

Come to my banquet.

Come, all who are weary and heavy-laden.

Come, all who are happy and joyful.

Come, all who are disabled and disfigured.

Come, all who are healthy and strong.

Come, for my kingdom is for all,

and in my kingdom all are liberated to be fully the people I created you to be.

For all are invited and all are welcome.

Prayer of thanksgiving

**Lord our God,**

**we thank you for our fellowship at your table today.**

**Send us out to see your divine potential in all we meet,**

**and to offer your welcome to all of humanity.**

**That your kingdom may come in this place,**

**and we may glimpse the wonder of your heavenly banquet,**

**where every human experience**

**finds its place and fulfilment in the wounded hands of Christ. Amen.**

Blessing

May God our Father,

who holds all of humanity in the palm of his hand, bless you.

May Jesus our Saviour,

who took all our disabilities in his wounded body to the heart of God, bless you.

May the Holy Spirit our comforter,

who breathed life into the disabled body of Christ, bless you

May God, Father, Saviour and Holy Spirit

bless you and keep you,

this day and always. Amen

Go in the peace and joy of God,

knowing that you are his dearly loved child,

and that his image glows within you.

**In the name of Christ. Amen**