

Lord, we come to you through one another.
Lord, we come to you in all our need.
Lord, we come to you seeking wholeness.
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands.

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Our service will end with a hymn.

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name;
I've been born again in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share his love as he told me 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 pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name,
in earth and heav'n in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share his pow'r as he told me to.

God gives us life in Jesus' name,
he lives in us in Jesus' name;
and in Jesus' name I come to you
to share his peace as he told me to.

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And, now, we are all invited to a celebration with some sweets and
drinks.

Celebrating *the Sacrament of Reconciliation*



*A service of Reconciliation for children
based on the story of the Prodigal Son*

Hymn

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all men know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all men know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another.

(Anonymous, based on John 13:34-35)

A reading from Luke 15:11-32

The story of the prodigal son.

The catechist or the priest will explain the story, helping us to know what Jesus is saying to us.

Now, we will take some time to think about things we are sorry for and tell Jesus we are sorry.

Then, we go and talk with the priest about the things we know we do — things we are sorry for. He may ask us to do something afterwards, to be kind to the one we were unkind to, to give back something we have taken — or he may ask us to say a prayer. (This is called our **penance**.)

The priest will ask us to say a prayer telling God that we are sorry. (This is called an **act of contrition**.) You might have your own 'sorry' prayer or you might say this one:

Forgive me, Father,
for the times when I have not behaved like Jesus.
Help me to accept your forgiveness.
Help me to do better.
I will try to do better because I love you.
Thank you for forgiving me.

Tell the children that the priest will then say a prayer (called **absolution**) to tell us that God forgives us. Then, the priest will say something like: "All your sins are forgiven, go in the Lord's peace."

During the confessions, there will be some hymns.

Father, I place into your hands the things I cannot do.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands the way that I should go,
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands my friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that trouble me. Father, I place into your hands
the person I would be,
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, we love to see your face, we love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise
and in your name rejoice. Father, we love to walk with you
and in your presence rest,
for we know we always can trust you.

Father, I want to be with you and do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words
that you are speaking too. Father, I want to love the ones
that you will draw to you, for I know that I am one with you.

J. Hewer, © 1975 Kingway's ThankYou Music, Eastbourne, East Sussex

*Lay your hands gently upon us,
let their touch render your peace;
let them bring your forgiveness and healing,
lay your hands, gently lay your hands.*

You were sent to free the broken hearted.
You were sent to give sight to the blind.
You desire to heal all our illness.
Lay your hands, gently lay your hands.