

This service can be used for a Festival Service or for other occasions and may be adapted as required. If a more informal service is wanted, use whichever elements are appropriate to create your act of worship.

You may wish to display examples of Mothers' Union projects and initiatives down the years at a local, national and international level, including your link dioceses; and information on how to become involved in Mothers' Union.

**Extra suggestions for hymns and songs:**

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:  
unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name:  
make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name, the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might:  
powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted up.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word:  
firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore.

Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1962 Hope Publishing Co



Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;  
as Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed Thy hand hath provided –  
great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*



When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there, when I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there, when I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there, when I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there, when I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, were you there?

Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there, wherever you travel, I'll be there,  
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter, I'll be there. I'll be there.

Author: Sydney Carter [b1965] © Stainer & Bell Ltd



Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Holy Ghost, supreme in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart 1636 [translated by Catherine Winkworth 1858]



One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go;  
from the old things to the new keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corner of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn;  
all the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me:

Refrain:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.*

As I travel through the bad and good, keep me travelling the way I should;  
where I see no way to go you'll be telling me the way, I know:

Refrain:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.*

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough;  
leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.*

You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me;  
ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you:

Refrain:

*And it's from the old I travel to the new; keep me travelling along with you.*

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### **Talk / sharing of stories from Mothers' Union work:**

Information on the wider Mother's Union can be found on the website. If your diocese has details of their activities through the years you may like to share these, drawing out common strands between them and current activities.

### **Thanksgiving and Intercessions:**

Please include the names of your own diocesan office holders if you wish, and specific prayers for your own diocesan projects and initiatives. Also, the Wave of Prayer for the day along with your own link dioceses.

The Lord's Prayer may be added after the intercessions.

### **Symbolic Offering:**

You could be creative with this symbolic offering by making paper footsteps on which your initiatives are portrayed. You could also include thoughts about future initiatives in the same way.

### **Eucharist:**

If the service is to include a Eucharist this can be added after your intercessions, along with the sharing of the Peace. You could use this form of words for the Peace or choose your own:

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace. If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.