Daily Devotion
Friday Morning

Theme

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Murua ō mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Call to Worship

Never forget to show kindness,
to share what you have with others.
These are the sacrifices which God approves.

Gospel Reflection

Jesus, you are the good shepherd,
you are willing to die for the sheep.
You are the good shepherd;
as the Father knows you and you know the Father,
in the same way you know your sheep,
and your sheep know you;
you are willing to die for us.

The Father loves you because you are willing to give your life;
no one takes your life from you;
you give it up of your own free will;
you are the good shepherd.
Jesus is the good shepherd who understands our frailty,
and knows each one of us by name.

Silence for meditation.

Epistle Reflection

When we were still helpless,
Christ died for the wicked at the time God chose.
One of us might dare to die for someone good.
But now we see God's love;
while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
God rescued us from the power of darkness
and brought us safe into the kingdom of his dear Son,
by whom we are set free and our sins are forgiven.

So we rejoice in the hope we have of sharing in God's glory.
By the Holy Spirit
God has poured into our hearts the love of Christ.

The reading or readings may follow here.

Prayers

Our Father,
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
E tō mātou Matua,
murua ō mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Saviour, hanging on the cross, declaring God's love to us,
you are forgiveness.
Beside you hangs a thief,
beneath you waits Mary the forgiven,
and all around watch those many people
to whom you give new life and hope.
To us you give new life and hope.
Forgiven sinners become your body and your Church;
may the reconciliation we share
bring your gospel to all the world.

Eternal God,
by your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service
and live this day in love to one another and to you.

Jesus, you knew rejection and disappointment;
help us if our work seems distasteful;
help us to decide what best to do,
what next to do,
or what to do at all.
Give us courage and cheerfulness to go the second mile,
and all the miles ahead.
Amen

A New Zealand Prayer Book / He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa

Bible Study/ Reflection

Luke 2:39-52

The Return to Nazareth

39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40 The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favour of God was upon him.

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

41 Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

48 When his parents[a] saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you.”49 He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”[b] 50 But they did not understand what he said to them.51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years[c] and in divine and human favour.