

## **In Mary Sumner's footsteps: Notes for Service of Thanksgiving**

**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  
Great is thy faithfulness  
When I needed a neighbour where you there?  
Now thank we all our God  
One more step along the world I go

### **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.*

<http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/texts/newpatterns/contents/sectionh.aspx>