**RECONCILIATION RETREAT PRAYER SERVICE**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Today we have spent the day reflecting on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, learning about the celebration of the sacrament, listening to stories that tell us how God forgives and thinking about our own actions that may not have lived up to how God wants us to live.

As we start our prayer service this afternoon, we make the Sign of the Cross together.

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Let us pray that the Lord Jesus, who calls us all to be peacemakers will be with us as we come together to remember his love and mercy.

(Student to light the candle)

Lord Jesus, you are light of the world be light in our hearts and in our lives. Help us to listen to all you say, to know how much you love us, and how much we can love you in return. We ask this of you, Jesus our Lord.

Amen

**READING:** Luke 15:11-32 - read from the Children's Bible.

**LITANY OF FORGIVENESS:**

Reader: For the times when we hurt other's feelings on purpose.

All: Lord, forgive me.

Reader: For the times when we took something that wasn't ours.

All: Lord, forgive me.

Reader: For the times we didn't show your love to others.

All: Lord, forgive me.

Reader: For the times we didn't show our love to you, God, as we should.

All: Lord, forgive me.

Reader: For the times we didn't listen for your voice in our hearts.

All: Lord, forgive me.

**LORD'S PRAYER:**

Let us stand and pray for forgiveness as Jesus taught us. Our Father….

**CONCLUDING PRAYER:**

God, you help us to choose to make the right choice, but when we don't, you forgive us and make us whole again. Give us the strength to make the right choices, even when it is hard for us to do. Be with us too, as we show your love when we forgive others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** Create a New Heart - Michael Mangan

Create a new heart in me,

Come and set me free,

Open my eyes to see,

You can create a new heart in me.

Show me your love and kindness, Touch me deep within.

Wash me clean from pain, O God, Cleanse me from my sins. (Ch)

Teach me the secrets of wisdom, Make me faithful again.

Do not shut me out, O God, Or take your Spirit away. (Ch)

Fill me with joy and gladness, Keep my spirit strong.

Open up my lips, O God, And I will sing your song. (Ch)