

# Plough Service



*A service of Prayer, Dedication and Blessing for those involved in Food Production & Farming in*

**Frampton with Wyberton**

## Introduction

Minister: Praise the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God,  
you are become exceeding glorious;  
you are clothed with majesty and honour.

**ALL: you deck yourself with light, as it were  
with a garment: and spread out the  
heavens like a curtain.**

Minister: He waters the hills from above: the earth is  
filled with the fruit of His works. He brings forth  
grass for the cattle: and green herbs for the  
service of mankind; that we may bring food out  
of the earth, and wine that makes glad the  
heart and oil to make us cheerful; and bread to  
strengthen us.

Lord, how manifold are your works; in wisdom  
have you made them all; the earth is full of your  
riches.

Hymn:

1st Reading

2nd Reading

Hymn

Gospel Reading

**SERMON (or ADDRESS by member of the Farming  
community)**

Minister: Almighty and everlasting God, who governs  
all things in heaven and earth; mercifully  
hear the supplications of your people, and  
grant us your peace all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymn:

Father Give to us and to all your people in  
times of anxiety serenity, in times of  
uncertainty patience, in times of hardship  
courage, and at all times a quiet trust  
in your wisdom and love. Through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen

## *Gaelic Blessing*

*May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

*Amen.*

wherein the needs of all shall be supplied;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
Minister May the ploughman's hope be fulfilled  
in a plentiful harvest. Amen

(those gathered *return to seats*)

*If with Holy Communion...*

The PEACE (*service continues in separate booklet*)

Hymn: (*during this hymn, a collection is taken*)

*If not with Holy Communion... concludes as follows:*

Minister: O praise the Lord of heaven:

ALL: **Praise him in the height.**

Minister: Praise him, all his angels:

ALL; **Praise him, all his host.**

Minister: Praise him, sun and moon;

ALL: **Praise him, all the stars and light.**

Minister: Praise him, all the heavens;

ALL: **And the waters that are above the heavens.**

Minister: Let them praise the name of the Lord;

ALL; **For he spoke the word, and they were  
made; he commanded, and they were  
created.**

Minister: He has made them fast for ever and ever;

ALL: **He has given them a law which shall not be  
broken.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Minister: Let us Pray

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven**

Minister Through our love of the countryside,  
Through our care for animals,  
Through our respect for property and tools

ALL **Hallowed be your name**

Minister On our farms and in our homes,  
In our training colleges and schools,  
Where machinery is made, and where policy is  
planned,

ALL **Your Kingdom come**

Minister By our seeking your guidance,  
By our keeping your commandments,  
By our living true to our consciences,

ALL **your will be done, on earth as it is in  
heaven.**

Minister For the millions who live in poverty and hunger,  
For our own needs, and the requirements of our  
neighbours, by co-operation, sympathy, and  
generosity,

ALL **Give us this day our daily bread**

Minister Because we have broken your commandments,  
doing what we ought not to do, and neglecting  
what we ought to do,

ALL **Forgive us our trespasses**

Minister If any have injured us by injustice, double  
dealing or exploitation,

All **As we forgive those who trespass against  
us**

Minister When we consider doing to others what we would dislike done to us, When prosperity lulls us to false security, or adversity prompts us to despair, When success makes us boastful, or failure makes us bitter,

All **Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil**

Minister In the assurance of faith,  
In the confidence of hope,  
In the will to serve,  
Help us to love Christ as Lord, and our neighbours as ourselves.

ALL **For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*(The plough is brought up to the centre of the church – unless already in place. Members of the food production & farming community gather around the plough).*

### **Blessing of the Plough**

**(Reverend) Sir (or Ma'am), we ask you to pray for God's blessing on the work of the farmers of our country, of which this plough is a sign and token.**

Minister I will gladly do so; and I ask you all to pray with me. The Lord be with you.

ALL **And with your spirit.**

Minister Our help is in the name of the Lord;

ALL **Who has made heaven and earth.**

Minister The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord.

ALL **And you give them their meat in due season.**

Minister **you open your hand;**

ALL **And fill all things living with plenteousness.**

Minister O Holy Spirit, bestow upon all who till the ground wisdom to understand your laws, and to co-operate with your wise ordering of the world; and grant that the bountiful fruits of the earth may not be hoarded by the selfish or squandered by the foolish, but that all who work may share abundantly in the harvest of the soil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you warned your disciples, having put their hand to the plough, not to look back; Bless this plough and the skill of the ploughman for the service of mankind. Amen.

God speed the plough and the ploughman, the farm and the farmer.

ALL **God speed the plough.**

Minister God speed the plough, on hillside and in valley; on land which is rich, and on land which is poor; in countries beyond the seas, and in our homeland.

ALL **God speed the plough.**

Minister God speed the plough, in fair weather and in foul, in success and disappointment, in rain and wind, in frost and sunshine;

ALL **God speed the plough.**

Minister Almighty God, you fill the earth with your riches for the use of your children: remember the impoverishment of the nations: and on all who are in authority bestow your gifts of wisdom and goodwill, that, being lifted above self-regard, they may establish a new order,