



How can we keep from speaking?

PRESIDER:

VENUE:

TIME:

HOW CAN WE KEEP FROM SPEAKING?

Checklist of items and personnel required for this Liturgy:

ITEMS	PERSONNEL
Coloured fabric and boxes for a focus space.	Student to tap clapping sticks
clapping sticks	Student 1
Laminated photo of smiling girl (see below)	Student 2
Laminated photo of Thai greeting (see below)	Gospel reader
A plate of boiled rice	Student to place smiling girl photo
A pair of sandals	Student to place Thai greeting photo
A backpack	Student to place plate of boiled rice
A lit candle	Student to place pair of sandals
Book holders to support laminated photos	Student to place backpack
Catholic Mission PowerPoint resource	Student to place lit candle
Computer	First reader – Acts of the Apostles
	Prayers of Intercession 1
	Prayers of Intercession 2
	Prayers of Intercession 3
	Prayers of Intercession 4
	Prayers of Intercession 5
	Computer operator





GATHERING

Acknowledgement of Country

— *Please remain seated.*

The clapping sticks sound at the door of the church and continue to sound as they are processed through the church to the front. The clapping sticks fall silent and the person playing them moves aside.

Once silence has fallen students 1 and 2 move to the lectern.

Introducing Thailand

Student 1: Welcome to our liturgy for World Mission Month: “How Can We Keep From Speaking?” Our focus country is Thailand, where the Church seeks to provide life-fulfilling opportunities for children in need. Let us create a focus space.

Student 2: Thailand is called the land of smiles. We place an image of a young Thai infant who is receiving a lunch provided by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

A large photo is placed on the focus space.

Student 1: When the Thai people greet each other they press their palms together in a prayer-like gesture with the tips of their fingers touching their bowed foreheads. We place an image of a Thai greeting.

The image is placed on the focus space.

Student 2: Rice is central to Thai society. We place a rice dish.

A bowl of rice is placed on the focus space.

Student 1: It is considered good manners when entering a home or temple that one removes one's shoes and leaves them outside. We place a pair of sandals.

A pair of sandals is placed on the focus space.

Student 2: At the Mother and Baby Home (locally known as Baan Sukruthai) women from all parts of Thailand are provided accommodation, nourishing food, and other personal necessities for themselves and their children until they are able to return to their homes or stand on their own.

We place a backpack.

A backpack is placed on the focus space.

Student 1: In Bangkok The Sisters of the Good Shepherd offer support to mothers and children from disadvantaged areas. They provide education, skills training for young women, health care for families, and early learning for infant children. Their actions speak of the compassion and mercy of Jesus, the Good shepherd, who says, "I have come that they may have life, life in all its fullness. We place a candle.

A lit candle is placed on the focus space.

Student 2: Please stand for our gathering hymn.

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering Hymn

Sign of the Cross and Greeting

Student 1: We gather ... In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (4:13-21)

The members of the council were amazed to see how bold Peter and John were, and to learn that they were ordinary men of no education. They realized then that they had been companions of Jesus. But there was nothing they could say, because they saw the man who had been healed standing there with Peter and John. So they told them to leave the council room, and then they started discussing among themselves.

“What shall we do with these men?” they asked. “Everyone in Jerusalem knows that this extraordinary miracle has been performed by them, and we cannot deny it. But to keep this matter from spreading any further among the people, let us warn these men never again to speak to anyone in the name of Jesus.”

So they called them back in and told them that under no condition were they to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.

But Peter and John answered them, “You yourselves judge which is right in God’s sight – to obey you or God. For we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

So the council warned them even more strongly and then set them free. They saw that it was impossible to punish them, because the people were all praising God for what had happened.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Pause in silence for personal reflection on the reading.

Responsorial Psalm - Sung

I Am Wonderfully Made - Richard Cootes

I PRAISE YOU. I THANK YOU,
FOR I AM WONDERFULLY MADE.
I PRAISE YOU. I THANK YOU.
I PRAISE AND BLESS YOU, LORD,
FOR I AM WONDERFULLY MADE.

You search me. You know me.
You know my resting. You know my rising.
You search me. You know me.
All my ways lie open to you.

It was you, who made me,
Knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for my being,
For the wonders of all your creation.

You knew my soul, you knew my soul,
And my body held no secret from you,
When I was fashioned, in secret,
And molded in the depths of the earth.

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Pause in silence for personal reflection.

Gospel Acclamation

The Book of the Gospels is held aloft and processed to the lectern as the Gospel acclamation is sung.

Alleluia (Your Word is a Lamp)- Richard Cootes

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia

Allelu Alleluia!

Allelu Alleluia!

Your word O Lord is a Lamp

A Lamp for my feet.

Your Word O Lord is a Light

A Light for my path.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia

Allelu Alleluia!

Allelu Alleluia!

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Gospel

Reader: Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the
poor, to proclaim liberty to captives
and to the blind new sight,
to set the downtrodden free,
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them. 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord

ALL: Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

Reflection

Student 1: In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles Peter and John speak fearlessly about the saving activity of the risen Jesus. They had healed a blind man at the Temple gate in Jesus' name. Now, when asked by the religious authorities to stop speaking in Jesus' name, Peter says, "We cannot help speaking about the things we have seen and heard."

Student 2: In the Gospel reading Jesus reads from the Prophet Isaiah. He leads his listeners to understand that God's saving activity is alive in Jesus, himself... the blind see, the downtrodden are set free, the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.

Student 1: In Thailand, the Sisters of the Good Shepherd continue the liberating activity of Jesus and the Apostles. Through their care for young mothers and infants from disadvantaged areas of the city of Bangkok, they are living witness of the saving activity of the risen Jesus.

Student 2: That we may be informed of the good work of the Church in Thailand, let us watch a video presentation prepared by Catholic Mission.

The Catholic Mission video is played.

Universal Prayer

Presider: It is our responsibility as God's people to pray for the needs of the Church and the world. We pray for change: in ourselves and in the circumstances of those in need, particularly in Thailand.

Reader: For missionaries, that they will accompany, with compassion, those whose lives are affected by crushing poverty.
Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all refugee families, that they will find safe haven and welcome in places that show kindness to strangers.
Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church in Thailand, that it will continue to work in harmony with its culture and people.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who are affected by the coronavirus pandemic, that they may find relief and recovery.
Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For Pope Francis, that he will continue to lead the world towards, mercy, tenderness, and healing.
Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: God of all people, fill our hearts with your Holy Spirit that we will act justly to rid our world of all that harms our brothers and sisters. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Student 2: Together let us say the words that Jesus taught us.

All: **Our Father,**
 who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name;
 thy kingdom come;
 thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

Amen

Student 1: Let us go forth from this place to love and serve
the Lord.

Final Song

How Can We Keep From Speaking?

How can we keep from speaking? How can we not acclaim him?
How can we hold this joy inside the Spirit has awakened?
Oh let every heart lift with one accord
And sing out the name of Jesus our Lord.

The wonders we have seen and heard! The wonders we have
witnessed!
God's own life and love revealed! God's mercy and forgiveness!
And now the Spirit moves us to share with one and all
The name above all other names: Jesus, our Lord.

A gift has been poured out on us: God's own peace and joy!
A gift has been poured out on us. In the Spirit we rejoice!

And now we are one body. One body in Christ Jesus!
One in faith, one in hope, one in the love that frees us!
And forth we go together! Forth as living Word!
In all we do proclaim him: Jesus our Lord!

A gift has been poured out on us: God's own peace and joy!
A gift has been poured out on us. In the Spirit we rejoice!

How can we keep from speaking? How can we not acclaim him?
How can we hold this joy inside the Spirit has awakened?
Oh let every heart lift with one accord
And sing out the name of Jesus our Lord.
Oh let every heart lift with one accord
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