Worship resources for a Kagera Service

Revised February 2025

There are many ways you can add a flavour of Kagera to your service. Use this as an opportunity to have some fun as well as learning a little about our link diocese. Try using some Swahili prayers and responses, or sing some Swahili songs. It's very easy to read (or sing) Swahili; it's entirely phonetic, so just say every syllable as it is written.

In this document there are Swahili versions of some service elements, and a Kagera-themed proper preface for a communion service. There are also some bible reading and song suggestions. There are some prayer suggestions in a separate document – Prayers for a Kagera service. There are also templates for a family service and a communion service.

Pick and choose what suits you, amend them however you like, and use them in any service. And don't forget, speakers are available to come and talk and show pictures, perhaps in the sermon slot. Get in touch at kagera@cofesuffolk.org.

The Gathering

Kwa jina la Bwana, na Mwana,	In the name of the Father, the Son
na Roho Mtakatifu	and the Holy Spirit
Amina	Amen

The Greeting

Bwana akae nanyi	The Lord be with you
Pia na roho yako	And with your spirit

Confession

Dear God, we are sorry when we are not the people you would like us to be. Bwana uturehemu *(Lord have mercy)*

Bwana uturehemu

We are sorry when we try to live all by ourselves, instead of talking to you and with other people who love us.

Kristo uturehemu (*Christ have mercy*)

Kristo uturehemu

We are sorry when we push away other people who need us to listen to their worries and to support them in their lives.

Bwana uturehemu Bwana uturehemu

Christ came into the world to forgive people just like us. May the God of Love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins and assure us of His eternal love, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



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Bible reading suggestions

2 Kings 4: 1-7 The widow's cruse

Matthew 5: 13-16 You are the light of the world Mark 6: 30-44 The feeding of the five thousand

Luke 10: 25-37 The Good Samaritan

Romans 12: 4 -8 One body with many parts James 1: 22-25 & 2: 14-17 Prayer and practicality

After the Bible readings say:

Bwana asifiwe	Praise the Lord
Amina	Amen

An East African Masai Creed

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it. He created man and woman and wanted them to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the Earth.

This we believe.

We have known this High God in darkness, and now we know Him in the light. God promised in the book of His word, the Bible, that He would save the world and all the nations and tribes.

This we believe.

We believe that God made good His promise by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left His home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and man, showing the meaning of religion is love.

This we believe.

He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, He rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

This we believe.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through Him. All who have faith in Him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, to announce the Good News to others until Jesus comes again.

We are waiting for Him. He is alive. He lives.

This we believe. Amen.

The Peace

Amani ya Bwana ikae nanyi daima	The Peace of the Lord be with you always
Pia na roho yako	And with your spirit

The congregation offer one another a sign of peace, each saying Amani



Proper Preface for Communion prayer

The Lord be with you and also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God It is right to give thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, Father, because you have made us part of your family, a family of children from every nation, language and tribe. We thank you that we are one with our brothers and sisters in Kagera. We pray for them as they pray for us, and commit ourselves to you as we strive afresh to work for justice in your world. When the rains fail, Lord, stir us to pray; When the harvest is poor, Lord, stir us to act. When faith is difficult, Lord, may we be examples to each other of your truth.

Guide your Church in every land, and in this feast of bread and wine may we be made one in the bond of the Spirit.

You sent Jesus, your Son, to make the whole of humanity one, by preaching and praying a message of unity and love, dying on the cross, rising again for us, and living for us now at your right hand.

Therefore, with angels and archangels we join with our brothers and sisters in Kagera,
Christians throughout the world and the whole company of heaven, in the song that resounds throughout the world:

Holy, holy, holy Lord...

The Dismissal

Nendeni kwa amani	Go in peace
Twashukuru Mungu	Thanks be to God



Swahili Hymns

Sing the first verse in Swahili, then the whole hymn in English. Singing in Swahili is easier than it looks — just pronounce every syllable so it fits with the music.

Twae wangu uzima, Sadaka ya daima; Twae saa na siku Zikutukuze huku.	Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Yesu kwetu ni Rafiki, Hwambiwa haja pia; Tukiomba kwa Babaye Maombi asikia; Lakini twajikosesha, Twajitweka vibaya; Kwamba tulimwomba Mungu Dua angesikia.	What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Song ideas

We are marching in the light of $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}$...

He's got the whole world in his hands

This little light of mine

The Spirit lives to set us free, Walk in the light

Rejoice in the Lord always

Lord of the dance

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Blessed be the name of the Lord

Wide, wide as the ocean

Bless the lord (my brothers)

One more step along the world I go

When I needed a neighbour

Links to music and videos you could use in your service:

A collection of music recorded in churches in Kagera

You could play before the service while people are arriving soundcloud.com/user-741870393/sets/music-from-kagera

Singalong songs – you could use these as anthems

God is with us forever – www.youtube.com/watch?v=LovLvqwtxkY

The English class at Kagera Christian Training College sing Walk in the light vimeo.com/198673569

Keep checking the website at cofesuffolk.org/kagera-link-worship-resources for more resources and ideas. There are singalong choruses in Swahili and also a script and powerpoint presentation which could be used in the sermon slot.

Look out too for the Lord's prayer spoken by people in Kagera.

