**A Commission & Blessing for High School Graduates**

*Priest:* Dear People of God, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, the gathered community makes a solemn promise to do all in our power to uphold each newly baptized person in their life in Christ. These young people of *this* *parish\_\_\_\_\_\_* stand before us today.

We have prayed for God to open their hearts to the divine grace and truth. We have prayed for God to fill them with his holy and life-giving Spirit. We have prayed for God to keep them in the faith and communion of the holy Church. And we have prayed for God to teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit. On this occasion of their graduation from high school it is now time for us to send them into the world in witness to God's love.

*People:*  Lord, hear our prayer.

*The congregation stands.*

**The Commission**

*Priest:*  Go forth for God; go to the world in peace

*People:*  Be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace.

*Priest:* Go forth for God; go to the world in love

*People:* Strengthen the faint, give courage to the weak.

*Priest:* Go forth for God; go to the world in strength

*People:* Hold fast to the good, be urgent for the right.

*Priest:* Go forth for God; go to the world in joy

*People:* to serve God's people every day and hour.

**The Blessing**

*Priest:* God our Father, bless you with grace as you go grow into all that you are created to become. God the Son, bless you with faith as you seek pathways that lead through the challenges and trials of life. God the Holy Spirit, bless you with inspiration to go in peace to love and serve the Lord, from this day forth and forevermore.

*People: Amen!*

*The bidding is drawn from the promises and prayers of Holy Baptism, found in* The Book of Common Prayer, p. 303, 305-306. *The commissioning is drawn from the lyrics of John Raphael Peacey (1896-1971) found in hymn #347 of* The Hymnal 1982*.*