

# Holy Communion



*God's Holy gifts,  
for God's Holy people*



## **Welcome!**

***One of the words used for worship is 'liturgy' which is a Greek word meaning the 'work of the whole people of God'. The Bible tells us that God is everywhere and Jesus says that we will meet him in the poor, the hungry and the naked. So what are we doing when we come to Church?***

Well, we are doing a number of things and there is a dynamic to them. Firstly, we gather and remember that together we are called to be God's Holy people. We remember the times when we have 'failed to live as if the truth were true' and hear that, because of what God has done in Christ, we are forgiven. We hear God's word, we pray for his world and we share in the meal that Jesus left us in order that we might become a new community of love.

As we meet with Christ and say these words, little by little, we are changed, 'from one degree of glory to another'. As we are changed, we thank God for the meal we have shared and recommit ourselves to be his hands and feet in the world; doing the things that Jesus did, working for the coming of his Kingdom, looking out for where he is already at work in the world and joining in.

This is our rehearsal space. The place where we come each week to practice living in the Kingdom of God. We come together because we know we cannot do this alone. We come back because we are all a work in progress, 'saints in the refining'.

So come this morning expectant to hear God's word for you. Prepare to be changed by the words you hear, the words you say and the work we do together because, as we share in God's holy gifts, we slowly become God's Holy people.

## Gathering

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*There is a brief introduction to the service followed by our opening hymn. During the hymn children are invited to collect a candle from the back of Church and to place it on the altar.*

We meet in the name of God.

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*There is a brief prayer with the children before they go to their JAM (Sunday school) session. They will return to re-join us for Communion.*

*The following prayer may be used...*

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Prayers of Confession

*As we come to worship God, we remember the times' when we have turned our back on his love. This will include a time of silent reflection. Following introductory sentences, we join in this response...*

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

*We hear God's forgiveness of our sins*

# The Gloria

*ff*  
  
 Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the high - est.

*f*  
  
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God,

heav'n-ly King, Al-migh-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we\_

  
 praise you for your glo - ry. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the high - est.

*mf*  
  
 Lord, Je - sus Christ, on - ly son of the Fa-ther. Lord God, Lamb of God, you

  
 take\_ a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right

  
 hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God, Glo - ry to God,

  
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est. For you a-lone are the Ho - ly one, you a - lone are the Lord.

  
 You a-lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the

*ff*  
  
 Glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God, Glo-ry to God in the high - est.

## **The Collect**

*We hear the special prayer for today.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

*We sit to hear our readings and then stand to sing our hymn before the Gospel. At the end of the reading, we use this response:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

*We remain standing and turn to face the reader as we listen to the Good News of Jesus Christ, who came to be amongst us. We all celebrate God's word by singing these words together.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...

**(Sung) Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**(Sung) Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*We sit for the sermon. At the end of the sermon there will be a time of silent reflection.*

## **Confession of Faith**

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to stand and turn to the Font as we affirm our baptismal faith as God's royal priesthood.

*A member of the congregation leads us in one of the following affirmations of faith...*

### ***Short Creed...***

We believe in God the Father...

**from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

We believe in God the Son...

**who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit...

**who strengthens us with power from on high.**

We believe in one God;

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***Long Creed...***

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
**maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,**

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
**Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate  
from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death  
and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
**he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his  
kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
**the Lord, the giver of life,**

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**

He has spoken through the prophets.  
**We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.**

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



## **Prayers of Intercession**

*We sit as we pray for the church and the world. The person leading the prayers may use one of the following responses.*

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*or*

Lord hear us

**Lord graciously hear us**

*or*

May your Kingdom come

**Your will be done**

*The prayers may end with the following words*

Merciful Father...

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of thy Son,  
our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*A minister introduces the peace*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We share the peace and then sing our offertory hymn*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*We hear of God's saving work in Christ. We then sing the words of the ancient prayer the 'Sanctus' and 'Benedictus'. This Prayer recalls the heavenly vision of the prophet Isaiah and the words sung by the angels as they behold the glory of God...*

*mf*  
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of po-wer and might.

*f*  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na

*mf*  
in the high - est. Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the

*f* *ff*  
Lord. Ho - san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho - san-na in the high - est.

*We honour Christ's saving work with these words...*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

As our Great Thanksgiving comes to a conclusion we join together either to sing one of the following...

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

or

**'Amen'.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

*mp*  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the

*mf*  
sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

*mp*  
take a-way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of

*p*  
God, you take a-way the sins of the world: Grant us peace.

*As we are invited to receive communion we hear these words and respond...*

All here are welcome to gather at this table and share in the heavenly banquet; for these are God Holy Gifts, for God's Holy People  
**Jesus Christ is Holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father**

*Please come forward to receive Holy Communion or a blessing as directed by the stewards. All, including children, who wish to receive Communion this morning are welcome to do so here. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your head bowed. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask the person offering you Communion.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*The person leading the service may pray a particular prayer for this Sunday. We all then join to say one of the following...*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

*or*

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Notices**

*We sit for our notices.*

## **Sending**

*We stand for our final hymn. The choir and ministers process to the West doors and we turn to face them as we are blessed for the week ahead and hear Jesus' challenge to live out the Good News in our lives.*

## **Dismissal**

Christ is with you always to the end of the age.

**Alleluia! Amen. We will see Christ in the world.**

You are the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

**Alleluia! Amen. We will be Christ to those whom we meet.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**



## **Our diocesan LIFE strategy prayer**

*The God of hope and transformation,  
who in our Lord Jesus Christ offers the gift  
of life in all its fullness,  
send your Holy Spirit and grant us  
joy in our following and vision in our leadership.  
May we be rich in imagination, confident in faith,  
and courageous in our engagement  
with the people and places of this diocese.  
As we share your life with the world,  
keep us rooted and grounded in love  
as we bear witness to your glory  
and pray for your Kingdom to come.  
Amen.*

