



St Thomas of Canterbury, Greatford

**Holy Communion**

*based on*

**The Book of  
Common Prayer 1662**



Christians have worshipped in the churches in our group for more than 900 years and we extend a warm welcome to those visiting, those returning and the regular members of the congregation.

This service is a celebration of Holy Communion based on the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 1662 and its traditional or archaic language may help us to put aside the pressures of our lives as we enter into a tradition that has sustained Christians in England since the 17th Century.

The solemn nature of the words and actions help us to connect with ancient traditions.

If you are new to this style of worship or unfamiliar with the language, then let us put you at ease. We have tried to include sufficient instructions to help you take part in the service. Feel free to sit rather than standing or kneeling if this is more comfortable.

All who have been baptised in a Trinitarian church and who would normally receive communion are invited to receive at this church. If you are not baptised, or if for any reason you do not wish to receive communion today, please come forward bringing this booklet, and you will be given an individual blessing.

However you join in, we pray that you sense the presence and love of God.

While we wait for the service to begin, it may be helpful for us to sit in stillness and quiet to help us prepare our hearts and minds for this celebratory service of Holy Communion.

After the service, please do take the opportunity to appreciate the stunning window on the south side of the nave. A relatively recent addition (2015) and featuring a non-figurative representation of our Patronal Saint, St Thomas of Canterbury.



Fr Aran Beesley  
Rector of St Thomas of Canterbury, Greatford

# Holy Communion

Please follow the directions regarding posture  
in RED CAPITAL LETTERS

Please join in with the text in **BOLD**

PLEASE STAND AS THE PRESIDING PRIEST ENTERS

*An entrance hymn may be sung*

PLEASE KNEEL OR SIT

THE PRIEST OPENS THE SERVICE IN PRAYER

*The Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
**Amen.**

## ***Prayer of Preparation***

Almighty God,  
unto whom all hearts be open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love thee,  
and worthily magnify thy holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## ***Welcome and Introduction***

### ***The Summary of the Law***

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;  
and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart,  
and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,  
and with all thy strength.  
This is the first commandment.  
And the second is like, namely this:  
Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.  
There is none other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law  
and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these  
thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

## ***The Collect for the Sovereign***

Let us pray

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: have mercy upon the whole Church; and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant Charles, our King and Governor, that he knowing whose minister he is may above all things seek thy honour and glory: and that we and all his subjects duly considering whose authority he hath may faithfully serve, honour and humbly obey him, in thee, and for thee, according to thy blessed word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

## ***The Collect of the Day***



***A Lesson from the Old Testament may be read and a Responsorial Psalm may be used***

*The reader says*

The First Lesson is written in the ... chapter of ... beginning at the ... verse.

*At the end the reader says*

Here endeth the Lesson.

## **Epistle**

### *The reader says*

The Epistle is written in the ... chapter of ...  
beginning at the ... verse.

### *At the end the reader says*

Here endeth the Epistle.

## **The Gospel**

The Gospel is proclaimed in the midst of the people

**PLEASE STAND AND TURN TO FACE THE GOSPELLER**

### *The Priest says*

The holy Gospel is written in the ... chapter of the  
Gospel according to Saint **N ❖ ❖ ❖**, beginning at  
the ... verse.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

### *At the end the Priest says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

PLEASE REMAIN STANDING AND TURN TO FACE THE ALTAR

## ***The Creed***

**I believe in one God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;**

*For the following three lines you may bow.*

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man,**

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Sermon**

**PLEASE BE SEATED**

### **Offertory**

*One of the following or another sentence of Scripture is used:*

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

*Matthew 5.16*

Lay not up for yourselves treasure upon the earth; where the rust and moth doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven; where neither rust nor moth doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal.

*Matthew 6.19*

All things come of thee, and of thine own do we give thee.

*Chronicles 29.14*

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?

*1 John 3.17*

### **A Hymn may be sung - PLEASE STAND**

*The Eucharistic Elements may be taken up to the Altar*

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.*

*The Priest places the bread and wine upon the table.*



## **Intercession - PLEASE KNEEL OR SIT**

*Intercession in this form may be used with the addition of specific intentions*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and ever-living God, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our alms and oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy divine majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant, that all they that do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.

We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian kings, princes and governors; and specially thy servant Charles our King, that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: and grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, priests and deacons, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments: and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only mediator and advocate.

**Amen.**

### ***Invitation to Confession***

**The Priest may read one of the Exhortations from The Book of Common Prayer before the invitation to confession.**

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

## **Confession**

**Almighty God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
maker of all things, judge of all men:  
we acknowledge and bewail  
our manifold sins and wickedness,  
which we, from time to time,  
most grievously have committed,  
by thought, word and deed,  
against thy divine majesty,  
provoking most justly  
thy wrath and indignation against us.  
We do earnestly repent,  
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;  
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us;  
the burden of them is intolerable.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that we may ever hereafter  
serve and please thee in newness of life,  
to the honour and glory of thy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **Absolution**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins  
to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith  
turn unto him: have mercy upon you; ✠ pardon and  
deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen  
you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Comfortable Words**

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith  
unto all that truly turn to him:  
Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden,  
and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11.28*

So God loved the world,  
that he gave his only-begotten Son,  
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,  
but have everlasting life. *John 3.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:  
This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be  
received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save  
sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear also what Saint John saith:  
If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for  
our sins. *1 John 2.1, 2*

## **Preface**

*The Priest and the people praise God for his goodness.*

The Lord be with you  
**and with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.  
**It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

*In the octaves of Christmas, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and on Trinity Sunday, a proper preface is inserted here.*

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## ***Prayer of Humble Access***

We do not presume to come to this thy table,  
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in thy manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs  
under thy table.

But thou art the same Lord,  
whose property is always to have mercy:  
grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made  
clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

**Amen.**

## ***The Prayer of Consecration***

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender  
mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death  
upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his  
one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and  
sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of  
the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy gospel  
command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his  
precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee;  
and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and  
wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy  
institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be  
partakers of his most blessed body and blood:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;  
and, when he had given thanks, he brake it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take eat;  
this is my body which is given for you:  
do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;  
and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,  
Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the new  
testament, which is shed for you and for many for the  
remission of sins: do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in  
remembrance of me.

**Amen.**

### ***The Agnus Dei***

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

### ***Giving of Communion***

*All who have been baptised in a Trinitarian church and who would normally receive communion are invited to receive at this church. If you are not baptised, or if for any reason you do not wish to receive communion today, please come forward bringing this booklet, and you will be given an individual blessing.*

*The Priest receives communion in both kinds and then proceeds to deliver the same to the people.*

*Each responding **Amen** before each receive their communion.*

*Communion is consumed before moving and returning to the pew, to wait in silent prayer.*

*These words of distribution maybe used: They may be said to each individual or, on occasion, group of individuals.*

THE Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life: Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart by faith with thanksgiving.

**Amen**

THE Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy body and soul unto everlasting life:

Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

**Amen**

*or*

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, and his blood, which was shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**Amen**

*or*

The Body of Christ

**Amen**

The Blood of Christ

**Amen**



## ***The Lord's Prayer* - PLEASE SIT OR KNEEL**

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### ***Prayer after Communion – The Prayer of Thanksgiving***

Almighty and ever-living God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

*Gloria in Excelsis shall be said or sung*

PLEASE STAND.

*The Gloria is omitted during Advent and Lent*

**Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the  
Father, have mercy upon us.  
For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

***The Blessing* - PLEASE REMAIN STANDING**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

***Notices* - PLEASE BE SEATED**

***Recessional Hymn* - PLEASE STAND**

An organ voluntary may be played;

Please remain seated until its conclusion.

Services at Greatford are usually 'traditional' in nature and are based on some of the Church of England's oldest liturgies.

If you would prefer a more 'contemporary' style of worship, please speak to Fr Aran or visit the website

*A Church Near You* [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

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(Common Worship, Order Two Traditional language)

Cover Photograph: The Becket window by Helen Whittaker of The Barley Studio, York; installed in this church in 2015.