



# Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated by the whole people of God gathered for worship. The ministry of the members of the congregation is expressed through their active participation together in the words and actions of the service, but also by some of them reading the Scripture passages, leading the prayers of intercession, and, if authorized, assisting with the distribution of communion.

In some traditions the ministry of the deacon at Holy Communion has included some of the following elements: the bringing in of the Book of the Gospels, the invitation to confession, the reading of the Gospel, the preaching of the sermon when licensed to do so, a part in the prayers of intercession, the preparation of the table and the gifts, a part in the distribution, the ablutions and the dismissal.

The deacon's liturgical ministry provides an appropriate model for the ministry of an assisting priest, a Reader, or another episcopally authorized minister in a leadership ministry that complements that of the president.

The unity of the liturgy is served by the ministry of the president, who in presiding over the whole service holds word and sacrament together and draws the congregation into a worshipping community.

The president at Holy Communion (who, in accordance with the provisions of Canon B 12 'Of the Ministry of the Holy Communion', must have been episcopally ordained priest) expresses this ministry by saying the opening Greeting, the Absolution, the Collect, the Peace and the Blessing. The president must say the Eucharistic Prayer, break the consecrated bread and receive the sacrament on every occasion. When appropriate, the president may, after greeting the people, delegate the leadership of all or parts of the Gathering and the Liturgy of the Word to a deacon, Reader or other authorized lay person.

As provided in Canon B 18 the sermon shall be preached by a duly authorized minister, deaconess, Reader or lay worker or, at the invitation of the minister having the cure of souls and with the permission of the bishop, another person.

### **Spiritual Communion**

Although not often needed, the Church of England has made provision since the 1549 Prayer Book for people to still receive spiritually even if separated from the Body of Christ by sickness or plague. St Thomas Aquinas defined Spiritual Communion as '*an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him*'. That is, by our desire for Christ in the Sacrament, we are able to receive the fruits and advantages of the Blessed Sacrament itself.

# Welcome & Introduction

*Gathered in our own homes the service may open with a period of silence or a piece of music.*

**P** In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All** Amen.

**P** Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

**All** and also with you.

*From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows*

**M** Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All** He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

## Prayer of Preparation

**All** 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 Penitence

*The Commandments, the Beatitudes, the Comfortable Words  
or the following Summary of the Law may be used*

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments  
hang all the law and the prophets.

**All Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

*A minister uses an invitation to confession  
or these or other suitable words*

**M** God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

***All*** Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.

*Or, with suitable penitential sentences, the Kyrie eleison may be used*

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

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

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

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

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

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

***P*** Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver you from all *your* sins,  
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***All*** Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

***All*** Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words  
'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

*The Collect is said, and all respond*

***All*** Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Readings

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel*

*At the end of the readings the reader may say.*

**R** This is the word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

*An acclamation may herald the Gospel reading.*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

**R** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*

**All** Glory to you, O Lord.

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

# The Creed

*M* Let us declare our faith  
in in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*All* **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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who 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

*The prayers usually include topical concerns and may follow this sequence:*

- ¶ The Church of Christ
- ¶ Creation, human society,  
the Sovereign and those in authority
- ¶ The local community
- ¶ Those who suffer
- ¶ The communion of saints

*Each prayer may end with:*

Lord, in your mercy (or)  
**All** hear our prayer.

Lord hear us  
**Lord mercifully hear us**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,  
**All** accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

## The Peace

*The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence and then says*

**P** The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**All** and also with you.

## Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.  
One or more of the prayers at the preparation of the table may be said.  
The president takes the bread and wine.*

**P** God our Father,  
keep us united in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread and the prayers,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

## Prayer B

**P** The Lord be with you                    (*or*) The Lord is here.  
**All** and also with you.                    His Spirit is with us.

**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**All** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**P** Father, we give you thanks and praise  
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all things;  
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;  
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,  
he lived on earth and went about among us;  
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;  
he put an end to death by dying for us;  
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;  
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

*Short Proper Preface, when appropriate*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

***All* Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

***P*** Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us  
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke 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. †

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

†

*One of these acclamations is used*

**M** Great is the mystery of faith:

**All** **Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

*(or)*

**M** Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All** **Lord, by your cross and resurrection**

**you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

**P** And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice  
made once for the sins of the whole world;  
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.  
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise  
and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of *N* and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

†

***All*** Amen.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

***M*** Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

***All*** **Our Father, who 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 those who 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.**

# Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

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

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

*(or)*

**P** Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

**All** **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken*

**All** **Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

**P** Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink  
in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*(or)*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

***All*** **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*or, from Easter Day to Pentecost*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

***All*** **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The president receives communion  
on behalf of the dispersed congregation.*

## **After Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

***All*** **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.**

*The president may use a suitable blessing  
(or)*

**P** The peace of God,  
which passes 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 Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen.

**M** Stay in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*or, from Easter Day to Pentecost*

**M** Stay in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**All** Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Lower  
Wensleydale

