

CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, WARE

EUCHARIST FOR EASTER, ASCENSION & PENTECOST



This order of service will guide you through today's worship.

Words in yellow speech bubbles are intended to help children through the service. They may be helpful too if you are less familiar with St Mary's.

***Coffee, juice and biscuits are served in the Hall after the service.
Please stay for a while if you can.***

The Gathering

Welcome & Notices – including any Banns of marriage

We gather & settle down to share news & sometimes pray for those getting married.

Hymn

Please stand

The Greeting

The Lord be with you

All **And also with you**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

After the hymn we greet each other in the name of Jesus, and pray together

Prayer of Preparation

Please kneel or sit

All **Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Words of introduction are said after which we pray

EITHER

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
we fail to grasp the wonder of your
presence.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,
we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

OR

All **Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.**

Saying SORRY

At the beginning of the service we say sorry for the things that get in the way of our relationships with God and with other people.

We pray together, for ourselves and also for the hurtful and difficult things in our world.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

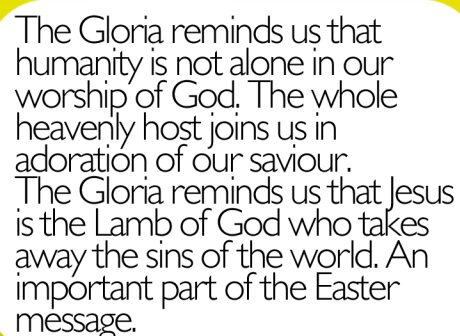
May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Please stand

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 Gloria reminds us that humanity is not alone in our worship of God. The whole heavenly host joins us in adoration of our saviour. The Gloria reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. An important part of the Easter message.

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading(s)

Please sit

At the end of each reading

This is the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God**

Hymn

Please stand

Gospel Reading

From Easter day until Ascension Day

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;

I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All **Alleluia**

On Ascension Day

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.

Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

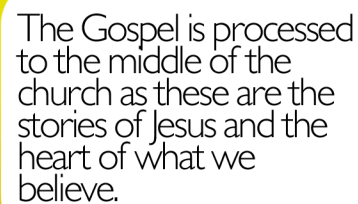
All **Alleluia**

On the Day of Pentecost

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

All **Alleluia**



The Gospel is processed to the middle of the church as these are the stories of Jesus and the heart of what we believe.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

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


And at the end

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

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

Sermon/Talk

Please sit



This is where one of the people leading the service will talk in more detail about the readings from the Bible and the Gospel that you heard earlier.

The Creed

Please stand



The Creed is a statement of faith.
We stand up and together say out loud the things we believe in as Christians.
All the big stories are here...

You can follow the Creed over the page in words and pictures.

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

CREATION

**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.**

CHRISTMAS

**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.**

**GOOD
FRIDAY**

**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.**

EASTER

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

ASCENSION

**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.**

PENTECOST

**THE CHURCH
WORLDWIDE**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

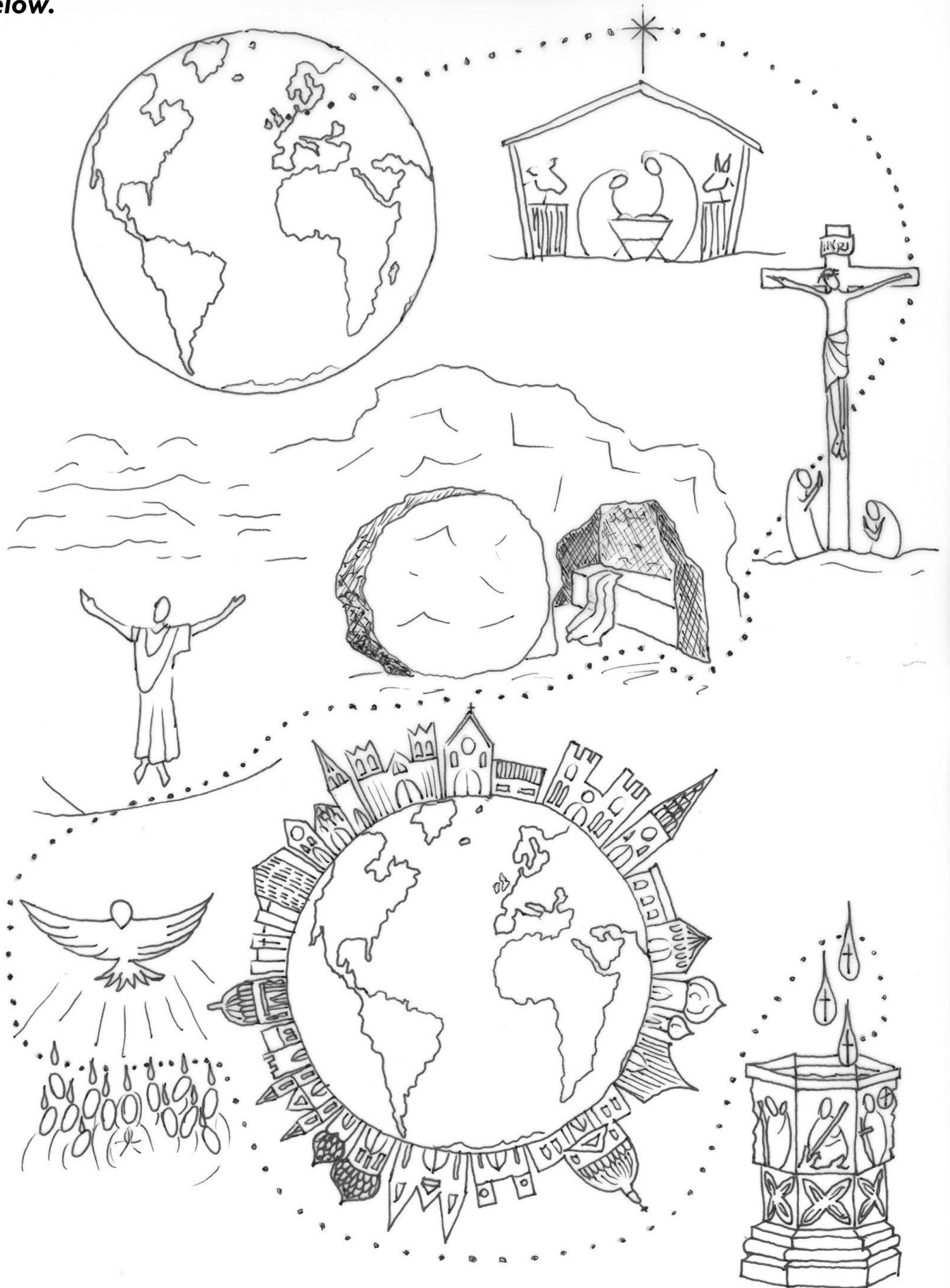
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

**BAPTISM - OUR
PART IN THE
CHURCH**

As you listen to The Creed, you can follow the prayer through all the stages below.



Prayers of Intercession

Please kneel or sit

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

In our prayers we pray for:

- The Church
- The World
- Our community, families and friends
- People who are ill or in trouble
- Those who have died

We share these prayers together so be ready to join in the responses.

If a different response is to be used it will be announced

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Now we begin to prepare to share the bread, wine and blessing of Communion.

The Peace

Please stand

From Easter Day until Ascension Day

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

On Ascension Day

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.

If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father.' Alleluia.

On the Day of Pentecost

God has made us one in Christ.

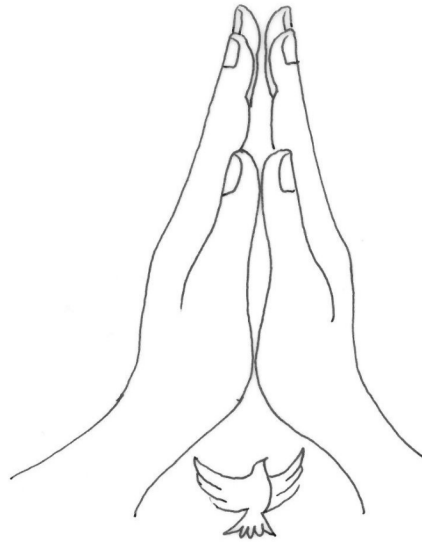
He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace by shaking hands with those around you, a wave, a smile or a hug.



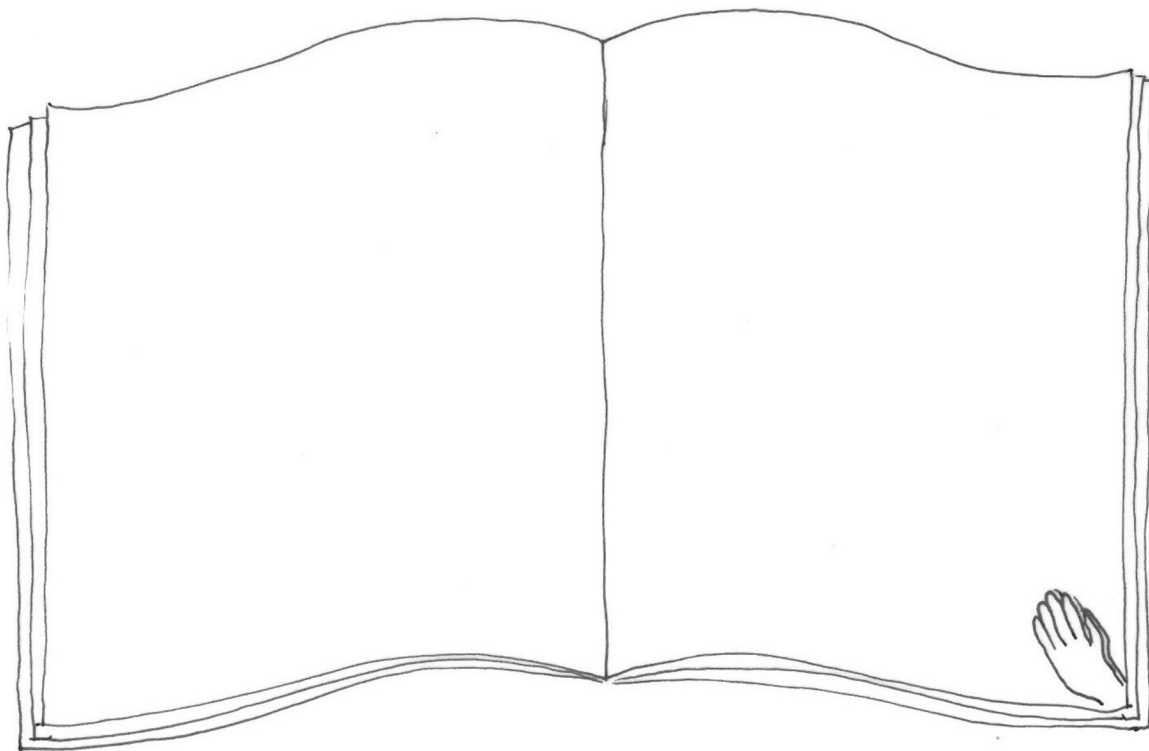
“PEACE BE
WITH YOU”

Hymn

During the hymn bread and wine for communion is brought to the altar and the table is prepared.

A collection is taken to enable the work of St Mary's Church. Gift Aid envelopes are available in the pews, please use them if you can. Like all churches we rely on voluntary giving for everything we do, so every donation makes a difference. Thank you for your offering.

You may notice that some people do not put anything in to the plate, or offer a small token – this is because they make their weekly offering through their bank as part of our planned giving scheme. If you would like to find out more, one of the people who welcomed you as you arrived will be able to help you.



The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

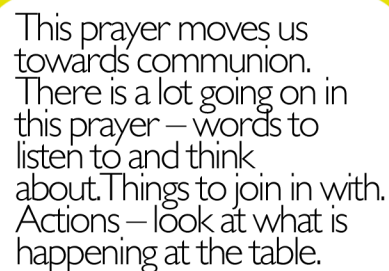
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



This prayer moves us towards communion. There is a lot going on in this prayer – words to listen to and think about. Things to join in with. Actions – look at what is happening at the table.

From Easter Day until Ascension Day

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.
For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.
And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy... continues on page 15

On Ascension Day

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ the King of glory.

Born of a woman, he came to the rescue of our human race.

Dying for us, he trampled death and conquered sin.

By the glory of his resurrection

he opened the way to life eternal

and by his ascension, gave us the sure hope

that where he is we may also be.

Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy

and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise:

Holy, holy, holy... continues on page 15

From Ascension Day until Pentecost

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest

who has entered once for all

into the heavenly sanctuary,

evermore to pour upon your Church

the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.

He is the one who has gone before us,

who calls us to be united in prayer

as were his disciples in the upper room

while they awaited his promised gift,

the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing

as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy... continues on page 15

On the Feast of Pentecost

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.

This day we give you thanks
because in fulfilment of your promise
you pour out your Spirit upon us,
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.
Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,
to proclaim your gospel to all nations
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,
to proclaim the glory of your name,
for ever praising you and saying:

All sing **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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour
Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and
wine may be to us his body and his blood;
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith

All **Christ has died:**

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

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

Silence is kept

The Lord's Prayer

Please kneel or sit

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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 for ever.
Amen.**

This is the prayer that Jesus taught us and has been said in this church for over 800 years.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.**

The bread is broken to prepare it for sharing with the congregation.

The word "consecrated" means that it has been blessed by a priest.

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

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

During Communion

If you normally receive the bread and wine at communion you are welcome to do so here. Otherwise please come forward for a blessing, just bow your head when you come to the rail as a sign to us. If we're not sure we'll ask you, please do not be embarrassed if that happens.

While everyone is going up for Communion, you might want to sit and pray, draw or do one of the worksheets. You will find paper, pens and worksheets in the Children's Corner at the back of the church.

As everyone receives communion The Agnus Dei may be sung

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The choir may sing an anthem or other music and there will be a hymn you can join in with.

This is an opportunity for personal prayer and reflection.

Prayer after Communion

We pray quietly for a few moments and then the post communion prayer for the week may be said, followed by

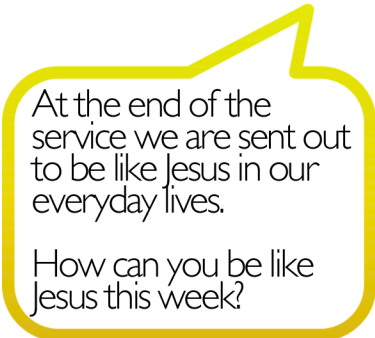
**All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.**

**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.**

At this point in the service we may hear from the children who have been taking part in Children's Church.

Hymn

Blessing



At the end of the service we are sent out to be like Jesus in our everyday lives.

How can you be like Jesus this week?

The Dismissal

Please stand

A seasonal blessing is said ending...

... and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

Sending Out

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

The Affirmation of Baptismal Vows

This may be used on Easter Day

Water is poured into the font

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All **I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All **I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All **I repent of them.**

In baptism God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ as saviour?

All **I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All **I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All **I come to Christ.**

Profession of Faith

Brothers and sisters, let us profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Commission

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Water is sprinkled on the people as a sign of baptism

What is the Easter season?

The Easter season starts on Easter Day and runs through Ascension Day to Pentecost.

The Church Year is also referred to as the liturgical year and is the annual cycle of seasons and days observed in commemoration of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

ADVENT – The Church Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent and is followed by the four weeks leading up to Christmas. This is the first penitential season in the calendar, the other being LENT. The liturgical colour of Advent is Purple.

CHRISTMAS – The Christmas season starts on Christmas Day and continues through Epiphany, the Baptism of Christ to Candlemas or the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The liturgical colours are White & Gold.

ORDINARY TIME – The first season of Ordinary Time begins on the day following Candlemas and runs to Ash Wednesday. Green is the liturgical colour used for this season.

LENT – The second penitential period of 40 days, which covers Ash Wednesday through Holy Week to Easter Eve. Purple is the colour for Lent.

EASTER – is celebrated from Easter Day through Ascension Day and finishes at Pentecost. Like Christmas, White or Gold are the colours of this season, except for Pentecost when Red is the liturgical colour. Red is also used to celebrate Saints and Martyrs.

ORDINARY TIME – This second season of Ordinary Time covers the twenty-two weeks after Trinity Sunday and includes All Saints' Day and the Sunday before Advent. Green is again the liturgical colour.



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