

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 319

In Christ There is no East or West

OPENING RESPONSES

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

Praise God!

For the Lord our God the almighty reigns!

**Let us rejoice and be glad and give him
the glory.**

Happy are those who have been invited
to the wedding-feast of the Lamb.

Amen. Praise the Lord!

WELCOME

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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.**

CONFESSION

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin
and be faithful to Christ. As we offer
ourselves to him in penitence and faith,
we renew our confidence and trust in his
mercy.

**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.**

ABSOLUTION

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. **Amen.**

GLORIA (*stand*)

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.**

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for
yourself, and our hearts are restless till
they find their rest in you: pour your love
into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly
city where we shall see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
for ever. **Amen.**

READING: Ezekiel 18.1–4, 25–32

*A reading from the book of the prophet
Ezekiel.*

The word of the LORD came to me: What
do you mean by repeating this proverb
concerning the land of Israel, ‘The parents
have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s
teeth are set on edge’? As I live, says the
Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be

used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 25:1-8

- 1 In you O Lord my God have I | put my | hope:
in you have I trusted let me not be
ashamed nor let my | ene-mies |
triumph| over me.
- 2 Let none who wait for you be | put to |

shame:

but let those that break faith be
con|founded · and | gain | nothing.

- 3 Show me your | ways O | Lord:
and | teach me | your | paths.
- 4 Lead me in the ways of your|truth and|
teach me:
or you are the | God of|my sal|vation.
- 5 In you have I hoped | all the · day long:
be|cause of · your | goodness · O Lord.
- 6 Call to mind your compassion and your |
loving | kindness:
for | they are | from of | old.
- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth nor |
my trans|gressions:
but according | to your | mercy |
think on me.
- 8 Good and upright | is the | Lord:
therefore will he direct | sinners | in
the | way.

READING: Philippians 2.1–13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient

to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 408

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:23-32

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening;
You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ Jesus said to them, ‘I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one

another, ‘If we say, “From heaven,” he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?” But if we say, “Of human origin,” we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

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, 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.

INTERCESSIONS

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

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

PEACE

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Here I am, down on my knees again
Surrendering all, surrendering all

Find me here
Lord as You draw me near
I'm desperate for You
I'm desperate for You
I surrender

Drench my soul
As mercy and grace unfold
I hunger and thirst
I hunger and thirst

With arms stretched wide
I know You hear my cry
Speak to me now
Speak to me now
I surrender

I surrender
I wanna know You more
I wanna know You more

Like a rushing wind
Jesus breathe within
Lord have your way
Lord have your way in me

Like a mighty storm
Stir within my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me

I surrender, I surrender
I wanna know You more
I wanna know You more

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this
bread to set before you, which earth has
given and human hands have made. It will
become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine
to set before you, fruit of the vine and
work of human hands. It will become for
us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the

majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER E

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade.

This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

SANCTUS (*sung*)

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,

that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith: (*sung*)

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St Stephen and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*said*)

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray;

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

AGNUS DEI (*sung*)

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.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

COMMUNION HYMNS

448 Meekness and Majesty

274 He is the Lord, He is the Lord

66 Be Still and Know That I am God

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, you have fed us at your heavenly table. Set us on fire with your Spirit that when Christ comes again we may shine like lights before his face, who with you and the Spirit lives for ever.

Amen.

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.

NOTICES

HYMN 695

To God be the Glory

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for your gift of grace. Reshape us Lord, as we walk with you, until in generosity, in faith, and in love, we are truly Christ-like. Make us passionate followers of Jesus, rather than passive supporters. Then, in us and through us, let your kingdom come.

Amen.

BLESSING

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;

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

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens,
fill this house and illuminate your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
among you and remain with you always.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.