

Extending God's Welcome to All. Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ to this service of Holy Communion. [If you need a gluten-free Communion wafer, speak to one of the stewards]

The flowers at the lectern are in memory of Gerald Tapson from Ann and the family.

Due to COVID, face coverings are to be worn, and we may not sing.

The virus has an effect on our finances. For one thing, we cannot take a collection. We rely on your giving; there is an offering plate, and also a card machine, by the North door as you exit.

Our theme today is: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them".

Please wait in silence and prepare for worship. You may like to meditate on the opening words of the Lord's Prayer,

`Hallowed be your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done'. Opening Solo – O Rest in the Lord (Mendelssohn)

O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him, and he shall give thee thy heart's desire. Commit thy way unto him, and trust in him, and fret not thyself because of evil doers. O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him.

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

And also with you.

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

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 **Amen. Lord, have mercy**

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days. Amen

'Gloria in Excelsis'

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 minister leads us in the special prayer (the 'Collect') for today

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading (please be seated)

Ezekiel 33:7-11

The Lord said to Ezekiel:

⁷ 'Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, "You wicked person, you will surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰ 'Son of man, say to the Israelites, "This is what you are saying: 'Our offences and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?'' ¹¹ Say to them, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?"

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading (please stand)

Matthew 18:15-20

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:

¹⁵ 'If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶ But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses." ¹⁷ If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸ 'Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ 'Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit

The Sermon

The Creed - You are invited to stand

The Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. 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.

The Prayers of Intercession

Any suitable form may be used

These prayers end with...

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

The Peace

The priest greets the people in peace

Seek and work for peace: peace in your heart, peace in your spirit, peace in your mind, peace in your home.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

We listen to a Hymn

AS WE ARE GATHERED, Jesus is here,

one with each other, Jesus is here, joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood, part of the Body, the Church of God. As we are gathered, Jesus is here, one with each other, Jesus is here.

John Daniels \odot 1979 Springtide/Word Music/CopyCare Ltd

The Liturgy of the Sacrament



The following may be said: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. You bring forth bread from the earth **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. You create the fruit of the vine. Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer B)

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.

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

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.

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.

Christ is the bread of life: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

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 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. **Amen.**

Let us pray You are invited to sit or kneel

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 priest breaks the consecrated 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. The Invitation

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.

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 Communion will be in one kind only (bread wafer). Please wait for the stewards to guide you to go forward.

If you do not wish to receive Communion bow your head for a prayer of blessing. When receiving communion, it is customary to say 'Amen' as you receive the bread.

Time of Quiet, with reflective music.

Prayer after Communion

God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Any notices and announcements.

Prayer of God's Blessing

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. Amen.

We listen to a Closing Hymn

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST;

in him no south or north; but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere their high communion find; his service is the golden cord, close binding humankind.

Join hands, united in the faith, whate'er your race may be; who serve my father as their own are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet north and south; All Christlike souls are one in Him Throughout the whole wide earth.

John Oxenham 1852-1941

Now go out from this place to love and serve the Lord In the name of Christ, Amen

Closing Music – Allegro by Mendelssohn

Please

... Remain seated until the stewards direct everyone out of the building through the NORTH door.

- ... Place your offering in the plate or use the card machine.
- ... Use hand sanitizer as you leave.



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