

SAFFRON WALDEN AND VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY
Order of service for Holy Communion at 9.30am on Wednesdays
24th February 2021 to 17th March

This booklet covers the Wednesdays after the first four Sundays in Lent. A separate booklet will be issued to cover Passiontide and Holy Week.

Introduction

We gather together, united in purpose though separate in place, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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

We prepare for worship by saying together:

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

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

Hearing God's forgiveness

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.

Collect

Readings

Weds 24 February (Lent 1): 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15 (as Grapevine)

Weds 3 March (Lent 2): Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38 (as Grapevine)

Weds 10 March (Lent 3): Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9 and Matthew 5:17-19

Weds 17 March (St Patrick): Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

Before the Gospel reading:

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*

Glory to you, O Lord

After the Gospel reading:

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

Reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Our prayers of intercession will be led by the president using the customary responses, unless otherwise stated:

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

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

Sharing Christ's Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

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

The altar and elements are prepared, with a suitable prayer.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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 indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh, he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will come again in glory. And so we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven to proclaim your glory, for ever praising you and saying:

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.

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.

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:
Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on 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.

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 Agnus Dei

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 Giving of Communion

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

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

While only the priest can physically receive the consecrated bread and wine, you are all invited to say together this prayer of Spiritual Communion, inviting Jesus to enter your deepest being.

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

A post communion prayer is said, from the Grapevine

We ask God's grace for the week ahead

Heavenly Father, sustain us in our joys and in our anxieties. Enfold us in your peace in our waking and in our sleeping, and may we know your presence with us now and always: in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

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