

Lent

Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Matthew 4.17

The Gathering

We stand as the ministers enter during the opening hymn.

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

(or)

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

Words of introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

The following prayer may be said

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

To prepare ourselves to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, the president invites us to call to mind and confess our sins.

A pause for silent reflection follows. After the silence, one of the following forms of confession is used

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.
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.**

(or)

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Christ have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president gives the absolution using these or other suitable words

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse you from your sins,
and restore you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Kyrie Eleison, an ancient prayer for Divine mercy, may be said or sung here if it has not already been incorporated in the prayers of penitence.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The hymn of praise, Gloria in Excelsis (page 50), may be said or sung to celebrate the Annunciation of Our Lord. It is also said or sung on Maundy Thursday to mark the start of the Triduum, the three great days of Holy Week.

The Collect

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

The president says the Collect, which expresses the theme of the day's celebration, and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

We sit for the readings. Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A psalm may follow the first reading.

A hymn may be sung.

Gospel Reading

We stand for the proclamation of the Gospel.

*The following or another suitable **acclamation** may herald the Gospel reading*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God,

O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

We sit for the sermon.

The Creed

We stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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 president introduces the Prayers of Intercession with these or similar words

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

The following or other suitable responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

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

Alternatively, the following form of intercession may be used

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin
which mean spiritual death,
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,
let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people,
that through the suffering of disunity
there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws,
interpret them, and administer them,
that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty
to work openly for justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
feel that God is far from them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

**Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand for the Peace.

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence.

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

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

*During a **hymn** the gifts of bread and wine, which by the power of the Holy Spirit will become for us the body and blood of Christ, are brought to the altar. A collection for the work of the Church may also be taken.*

As the gifts of bread and wine are placed on the altar the following or other suitable prayers may be used

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

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

All kneel or sit.

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.

One of the following acclamations is used

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

(or)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All **Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

(or)

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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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;
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.**

(or)

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.**

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.**

(or)

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 said or sung as the bread is broken

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.**

(or)

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.**

Giving of Communion

The president invites the people to receive communion. Those who have not been confirmed are invited to come to the altar for a blessing.

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

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

(or)

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 Christ 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.**

The following prayer may be said

All **We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

*The president and people receive communion. Upon receiving
communion the communicant replies*

Amen.

During communion hymns and anthems may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

After a period of silence, a post communion prayer is said. One of the following prayers of thanksgiving is then said

All **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.**

(or)

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 Dismissal

The president may use either of the following blessings, or another suitable blessing. There is no blessing at the end of the Maundy Thursday liturgy.

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give you a contrite heart.

All **Amen.**

May Christ,
who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal you by his wounds.

All **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace.

All **Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

(or)

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 you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

We stand for the final hymn.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

The ministers and people depart.