Since the beginning of Christianity Jesus' followers have gathered to hear the Apostles' teaching, to break bread together and to pray (Acts 2.42). Christians call this act of worship the 'Eucharist' - the act of giving thanks and praise to God for what he has done for humankind in the death and resurrection of his Son. At this Eucharist we gather to hear the story of God's relationship to humankind; then we respond with prayer for others, for the forgiveness of our sins, and in praise of God for all that he has done (the Eucharistic Prayer). We celebrate this service together as a community with clergy, singers and people taking different parts. All communicant Christians are welcome to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood with us. If you prefer a blessing, please bow your head and cross your arms.

Please refer to the NEWSLETTER leaflet for information particular to today's service.

## THE GATHERING

As the ministers enter, all stand and sing a hymn.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

From Easter to Pentecost this acclamation follows.

All Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

In Lent the Great Litany may be said or sung.
On some Sundays the Welcome to those newly baptised occurs here.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

KYRIE ELEISON

All sing either the Kyrie
All Lord, have mercy [on us].
Christ, have mercy [on us].
Lord, have mercy [on us].

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Or the Gloria

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 COLLECT

Let us pray.

A period of silent prayer follows.

The Collect for the Day is said, and all respond

All Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

READINGS

Either one or two readings from Scripture follow.

At the end of each the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A psalm or hymn or song may be sung between the readings. After the readings, all stand and sing a hymn.

GOSPEL READING

When the Gospel is announced all reply

All Glory to you, O Lord.

And then at the end

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

All sit for the sermon.

THE CREED

All stand and say or sing the Nicene Creed.

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

To the petitions, all respond as directed. At the end Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Or the President may close the Intercessions with a prayer, to which all reply

All Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

The Prayers of Penitence are introduced. All kneel and say together

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.

The President or the Bishop absolves the people. All reply

All Amen.

# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

All stand. The President introduces the Peace and says The peace of the Lord be always with you

All and also with you.

Members of the congregation offer the Lord's peace to one another.

While a hymn or anthem is sung, an offering is collected from the people and they bring gifts of bread and wine to the altar. The President presents the gifts to God, and may use words to which all reply **Amen.** 

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.

The Eucharistic Prayer begins, prayed by the President, then all sing or say

## All 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.

With the people standing or kneeling, the President continues the following or another Eucharistic Prayer.

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.

In the middle of the Eucharistic Prayer the People may sing or say

#### All Christ has died:

#### **Christ is risen:**

## Christ will come again.

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 Saint Helen and 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.

#### All Amen.

All

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The President introduces the Lord's Prayer and all say All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, vour 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 bread saying 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.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The choir sings 'O Lamb of God' or another anthem. The President invites the people to receive Communion. From Easter Day to Pentecost the President adds Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

All

In penitential seasons all may say, kneeling,

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 People come forward as directed and kneel or stand to receive Communion. At the distribution the communicant replies Amen. A hymn is sung.

After Communion all say together

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.

# THE DISMISSAL

**BLESSING** 

The President gives the Blessing to which all reply

All Amen.

**NOTICES** 

All sit for the Notices.

DISMISSAL

All stand. The President says
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Or, from Easter Day to Pentecost

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

A postlude is played as the ministers leave or a hymn may be sung.