

Mid - Week Communion Service

The Gathering

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed, Alleluia

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thought 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.

The Comfortable Words

Here the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11.28

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3.16

Hear what St Paul says: This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ
Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what St John says: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 2.1-2

The Confession

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,
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Gloria

**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

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

After the epistle we say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Gospel we say:

Hear the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Glory to you O Lord.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ.

The Reflection

Each week we will hear from a variety of reputable and orthodox teachers from centuries past. Extracts will be read to us from sermons, hymns, theological treatises, Biblical commentaries, letters, prayers and poems ... to deepen our faith. This should remind us that all scripture is God breathed and that it's truths and the lessons learnt from them, through the ages, are still useful for us today.



This week we hear an excerpt from Gregory the Great - his homily on John 10.11-18 & Ps. 23

Gregory was a Bishop gifted with extraordinary talents and energies. Raised in Rome, he inherited a strong Christian faith from his family. Gregory achieved great things academically and professionally. His leadership, administrative and civic capabilities saw him become a chief official in Rome by the age of 30. With that

influence and his personal wealth, he used them to create six monasteries. After his father's death in 574, he converted his house into a monastery. Thereafter, retiring to a life of contemplation and prayer. These were the happiest years' in Gregory's life, which he used to begin a detailed study of the Scriptures.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father 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 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

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

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

We pray for the Church ...
(*and so we pray*)

**Strengthen our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ,
that those who confess your name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.**

In you O Lord
do we put our trust.

We pray for the World ...

(and so we pray)

**Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen;
give wisdom to all in authority;
and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace;
that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for our Community ...

(and so we pray)

**Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We pray for those in special need ...

(and so we pray)

**Comfort and heals all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit;
give them courage and hope in their troubles;
and bring them the joy of your salvation.**

In you O Lord

do we put our trust.

We remember those who have died and pray for the bereaved ...

(and so we pray)

**Remembering all who have gone before us in faith, and in communion with all the
saints, we commit ourselves, one for another and our whole life to Christ our God;**

to you O Lord.

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said
Peace be with you. Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 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.

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.*

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, 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 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.

The Lord's Prayer

In times of hope, in times of trouble, in times of sorrow, in times of praise,
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.**

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 the one bread.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

We are invited to make a spiritual communion with God who comes to meet us where we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this.

All the Church has ever thought necessary is a true desire to receive Christ, a lively faith in Christ and a genuine love for Christ and his people.

As we make our spiritual communion together please listen to 'You Give rest to the weary'.

Songwriter: Nathan Fellingham. © Thank you Music & The Livingstone Collection

Prayer after Communion

We say together

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 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.

Go in the peace of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia

In the name of Christ, Alleluia, alleluia.