



# Peace to God’s People:

## Holy Communion during the Christmas Season

### Notes

#### Type of service

- ¶ A service of Holy Communion for use at and after Christmas;
- ¶ A fully worked out sample, suitable for local reproduction (note that it does *not* include all the words required by the president).

#### Response

The response

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**and we have seen his glory.**

is used in several places in the service as a common thread.

#### Prayers of Intercession

A suitable seasonal form should be chosen (for example F53) and any response clearly explained to the congregation.

#### Eucharistic Prayer

This order is suitable as printed, for use with Prayers A, B, C, E and G, though Prayer G does not allow for a seasonal Proper Preface.

#### Prayer after Communion

This prayer has been printed as a presidential prayer, but the congregation could be invited to join in with it if desired.

#### Blessing

If a blessing is required, a suitable seasonal form could be used.

# Peace to God’s People

Holy Communion during the Christmas Season

*We say together the words printed in bold.*

*The Greeting*

I bring you good news of great joy:

**All a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia.**

Unto us a child is born,

**All unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.**

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

**All We worship and adore him. Alleluia.**

*Prayers of Penitence*

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:

‘You shall call his name Jesus,

for he will save his people from their sins.’

Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God

through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

Lord of grace and truth,

we confess our unworthiness

to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

**All forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call

to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our disobedience to your will.

We have sinned:

**All forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour

was born in poverty in a manger.

Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

We have sinned:

**All forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks

to go to Bethlehem.

Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.

We have sinned:

**All forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star

to find Jesus the King.

Forgive our reluctance to seek you.

We have sinned:

**All forgive and heal us.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

draw *us* to himself,

and cleanse *us* from all our sins

that *we* may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All and we have seen his glory.**

*Gloria in Excelsis*

**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*

*Reading(s)*

*After each reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Reading*

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All and we have seen his glory.**

*When the Gospel is announced*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*and at the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sermon*

*This response may follow the sermon*

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All and we have seen his glory.**

***Affirmation of Faith***

*This, or another authorized Affirmation of Faith or Creed, is used*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All Though he was divine,**

**he did not cling to equality with God,**

**but made himself nothing.**

**Taking the form of a slave,**

**he was born in human likeness.**

**He humbled himself**

**and was obedient to death,**

**even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,**

**and given him the name above every name:**

**that at the name of Jesus**

**every knee should bow,**

**and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

**Amen.**

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All and we have seen his glory.**

*A hymn may be sung.*

***Prayers of Intercession***

## ***The Peace***

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,

and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All and also with you.**

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

## ***Preparation of the Table***

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*This prayer may be said*

Blessed be God,

by whose grace creation is renewed,

by whose love heaven is opened,

by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

**All Blessed be God for ever.**

## ***The Eucharistic Prayer***

The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

*(or)*

The Lord is here.



**All His Spirit is with us.**

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 president praises God for his mighty acts, ending with*

**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.]**

*The president recalls the Last Supper.*

*This acclamation may be used*

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection**

**you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

*The Prayer ends*

**All Amen.**

*(or)*

**All Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**be yours for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

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*

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.**

**Giving of Communion**

*The president invites the people to communion.*

*When the bread and wine are received each communicant replies*

**All   Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*This prayer may be said*

Son of Mary, Son of God,

we have joined the worship of the angels;

may we never lose that heavenly vision.

Like the shepherds,

we have rejoiced at the news of your birth;

help us to proclaim that message in word and deed,

to your praise and glory.

**All   Amen.**

**The Dismissal**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*A blessing may be given.*

*This response is used*

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

**All and we have seen his glory.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

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