

***COMMON WORSHIP: TIMES AND SEASONS***

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The General Notes to Common Worship, the Calendar and the Calendar Notes will also be included in the published volume.	

**Key to principal sources**

<i>CW</i>	<i>Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England</i> (2000)
<i>CW:President's</i>	<i>Common Worship: President's Edition</i> (2000)
<i>CW:Pastoral</i>	<i>Common Worship: Pastoral Services</i> (2000)
<i>CW:Daily Prayer</i>	<i>Common Worship: Daily Prayer – Preliminary Edition</i> (2002)
<i>New Patterns</i>	<i>New Patterns for Worship</i> (2002)
<i>Promise</i>	<i>The Promise of His Glory: Services and Prayers for the Season from All Saints to Candlemas</i> (1991)
<i>LHWE</i>	<i>Lent, Holy Week, Easter: Services and Prayers</i> (1986)
<i>Enriching</i>	M. Perham, <i>Enriching the Christian Year</i> (1993)
<i>APBFA</i>	<i>A Prayer Book for Australia</i> (1995)
<i>BAS(Canada)</i>	<i>The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada</i> (1985)
<i>NZPB</i>	<i>A New Zealand Prayer Book</i> (1989)
<i>ICEL</i>	The International Consultation on English in the Liturgy, <i>Draft Roman Sacramentary</i> (1995)
<i>A. Griffiths</i>	A. Griffiths, <i>We Give You Thanks and Praise: The Eucharistic Prefaces of the Ambrosian Missal</i> (1999)

\* indicates that a text has been modified

# Advent

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## Introduction to the Season

Advent is a season of expectation and preparation, as the Church waits for the coming (*adventus*) of Christ, both in his incarnation and as judge at the end of time. The readings and liturgies therefore look forward not only to Christ's birth, but also to his final Coming, and challenge the modern reluctance to confront the theme of divine judgement:

Every eye shall now behold him  
robed in dreadful majesty. *(Charles Wesley)*

The characteristic note of Advent is expectation, rather than penitence, although the character of the season is easily coloured by an analogy with Lent. The anticipation of Christmas under relentless commercial pressure has also made it harder to sustain the appropriate sense of alert watchfulness. Church decorations are simple and spare, and purple is the traditional liturgical colour. In the northern hemisphere, the Advent season falls at the darkest time of the year, and the natural symbols of darkness and light are powerfully at work throughout Advent and Christmas. The lighting of candles on an Advent wreath was imported into Britain from northern Europe in the nineteenth century, and is now a common practice. The Moravian custom of the Christingle has similarly enjoyed great success in Britain from the late twentieth century, with the encouragement of the Children's Society; Christingle services may take place before or after Christmas. The third Sunday of Advent was observed in mediaeval times as a splash of colour in the restrained atmosphere of Advent (*Gaudete* or "Rose Sunday"), and the last days of Advent were marked by the sequence of Great 'O' Antiphons, which continue to inspire modern Advent hymns and meditations.

## Seasonal Material

### Invitations to Confession

When the Lord comes he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

*1 Cor 4.5 [CW p300]*

*or*

A voice cries out in the wilderness 'Make straight the way of the Lord'. So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.

*John 1.23*

*or*

'The axe is laid at the root of the trees; every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down.' But confident in God's mercy we confess our sins.

*Matt 3.10*

### Kyrie Confessions

Turn us again, O God our saviour  
and let your anger cease from us.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1 Show us your compassion, O Lord,  
2 and grant us your salvation.  
3 Christ, have mercy.  
4 **Christ, have mercy.**  
5  
6 Your salvation is near for those that hear you,  
7 that glory may dwell in our land.  
8 Lord, have mercy.  
9 **Lord, have mercy.**

[Promise p128 2b]

10  
11  
12 *or*  
13 God through Jesus Christ,  
14 will judge the secret thoughts of all.  
15 Lord, have mercy.  
16 **Lord, have mercy.**  
17  
18 Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord,  
19 will enter the kingdom of heaven.  
20 Christ, have mercy.  
21 **Christ, have mercy.**  
22  
23 Let anyone who has an ear listen  
24 to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.  
25 Lord, have mercy.  
26 **Lord, have mercy.**

27  
28  
29 *or*  
30 Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
31 into the peace of your kingdom.  
32 Lord, have mercy.  
33 **Lord, have mercy.**  
34  
35 You come in word and sacrament  
36 to strengthen us in holiness.  
37 Christ, have mercy.  
38 **Christ, have mercy.**

39  
40 You will come in glory  
41 with salvation for your people.  
42 Lord, have mercy.  
43 **Lord, have mercy.**

[Promise p128 2a]

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.  
**Alleluia.**

*Isaiah 40.3 [CW p300]*

**Intercessions**

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid  
we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and Judge.

We pray for ...

Help us to live in the light of your coming  
and give us a longing for your Kingdom.

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your world as King of the nations.

We pray for ...

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to the suffering as Saviour and Comforter.

We pray for ...

Break in to our lives  
where we struggle with sickness and distress,  
and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember...

Give us with all the faithful departed  
a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come from heaven Lord Jesus with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,  
that with (*N and*) all your saints and angels  
we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha:

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*[Promise p129 3a\*]*

1 *Silence*

2 Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay  
3 give new courage to your people  
4 who trust in your love.  
5 By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom  
6 on earth as in heaven,  
7 where you live and reign  
8 with the Father and the Spirit,  
9 one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[Promise p349 46]

11  
12 *or*

13 Watchful at all times,  
14 let us pray for strength to stand with confidence  
15 before our Maker and Redeemer.

16  
17 That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,  
18 let us pray to the Lord:  
19 **Lord, have mercy.**

20  
21 That God may establish among the nations  
22 his sceptre of righteousness,  
23 let us pray to the Lord:  
24 **Lord, have mercy.**

25  
26 That we may seek him in the scriptures  
27 and recognise Christ in the breaking of the bread,  
28 let us pray to the Lord:  
29 **Lord, have mercy.**

30  
31 That God may bind up the broken-hearted,  
32 restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen,  
33 let us pray to the Lord:  
34 **Lord, have mercy.**

35  
36 That the light of God's coming may dawn  
37 on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,  
38 let us pray to the Lord:  
39 **Lord, have mercy.**

40  
41 That with all the saints in light  
42 we may shine forth as lights of the world,  
43 let us pray to the Lord:  
44 **Lord, have mercy.**

[CW:Daily Prayer p334]

45  
46  
47 We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray  
48 to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:  
49

1 *Silence*  
2 Almighty God,  
3 as your blessed Son Jesus Christ  
4 first came to seek and to save the lost;  
5 so may he come again to find in us  
6 the completion of his redeeming work;  
7 for he is now alive and reigns  
8 with you and the Holy Spirit,  
9 God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[*Promise p348 38*]

**Introductions to the Peace**

15 In the tender mercy of our God  
16 the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
17 to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
18 and the shadow of death,  
19 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

[*CW p300*]

22 *or*  
23 God will speak peace to his people,  
24 to those who turn to him in their hearts.

[*New Patterns H1*]

27 *or*  
28 May the God of peace make you completely holy,  
29 ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[*New Patterns H12*]

32 *or*  
33 Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.  
34 Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

[*New Patterns H13 / BAS (Canada) p96*]

**Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

40 As this bread was scattered  
41 and then gathered and made one;  
42 so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.  
43 **Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

45 Wisdom has built her a house;  
46 she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.  
47 **Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

[*Promise p257c (based on Didache 9.4)*]



1 *or*  
2 Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;  
3 draw us from hatred to love;  
4 make the frailty of our praise  
5 a dwelling place for your glory. **Amen.**

[CW p293]

6  
7  
8 *or*  
9 As the grain once scattered in the fields  
10 and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
11 are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
12 so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
13 from the corners of the earth  
14 into your kingdom.  
15 **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

[CW p292]

16  
17  
18  
19 **Prefaces**

20  
21 And now we give you thanks  
22 because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death,  
23 and to make us inheritors of everlasting life;  
24 that when he shall come again in power and great triumph  
25 to judge the world,  
26 we may with joy behold his appearing,  
27 and in confidence may stand before him.

28 [CW p300]

29  
30 *or*  
31 And now we give you thanks  
32 because when he humbled himself  
33 to come among us in human flesh,  
34 he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago  
35 and opened for us the way of salvation.  
36 So now we watch for the day  
37 knowing that the salvation promised us will be ours  
38 when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

39 [New Patterns p258]

40  
41 *or*  
42 And now we give you thanks  
43 because you prepared the way of your Son Jesus Christ  
44 by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist,  
45 who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

46 [New Patterns G92 / CW:President's p566]

47

1 *or*  
2 And now we give you thanks  
3 because your Son our Lord was awaited by the prophets,  
4 announced by an angel,  
5 conceived by a virgin,  
6 and proclaimed at last to men and women of every race.

[New Patterns G93]

8  
9 *or*  
10 And now we give you thanks  
11 because in his coming the day of our deliverance has dawned;  
12 and through him you will make all things new,  
13 as he comes in power and triumph to judge the world.

[New Patterns G94]

**Extended Prefaces**

14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19 *from the first Sunday of Advent until 16 December*  
20 It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
21 almighty God and everlasting Father,  
22 through Jesus Christ your Son.  
23 For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,  
24 he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago  
25 and opened for us the way of salvation.  
26 Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,  
27 we now watch for the day  
28 when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.  
29 And so we join our voices with angels and archangels  
30 and with all the company of heaven  
31 to proclaim your glory  
32 for ever praising you and *saying*:

[CW p301]

33  
34  
35 *from 16 December until Christmas Eve*  
36 It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
37 almighty God and everlasting Father,  
38 through Jesus Christ your Son.  
39 He is the one foretold by all the prophets,  
40 whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.  
41 John the Baptist was his herald  
42 and made him known when at last he came.  
43 In his love Christ has filled us with joy  
44 as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
45 so that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer,  
46 our hearts filled with wonder and praise.  
47 And so, with angels and archangels,  
48 and with all the company of heaven,  
49 we proclaim your glory  
50 and join in their unending hymn of praise.

[CW p301]

51

**Blessings and Endings**

1  
2  
3 Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
4 scatter the darkness from before your path,  
5 and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
6 and the blessing...

[CW p301]

7  
8  
9 *or*

10 May God himself, the God of peace,  
11 make you perfect and holy;  
12 and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,  
13 for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
14 and the blessing...

[New Patterns J74]

15  
16  
17 *or*

18 May God the Father,  
19 who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son,  
20 give you grace to prepare for life eternal.

21 **Amen.**

22  
23 May God the Son,  
24 who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge,  
25 reveal to you the path from darkness to light.

26 **Amen.**

27  
28 May God the Holy Spirit,  
29 by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ,  
30 help you bear the fruits of holiness.

31 **Amen.**

32  
33 And the blessing of God almighty,  
34 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
35 be among you and remain with you always.

36 **Amen.**

[CW:President's p566]

37  
38  
39 *or*

40 May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
41 make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.

42 **Amen.**

43  
44 May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
45 reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

46 **Amen.**

47  
48 May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
49 joyful in hope and constant in love.

50 **Amen.**

1 And the blessing of God almighty,  
2 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
3 be among you and remain with you always.  
4 **Amen.**

[CW:President's p567]

5  
6  
7 *or*  
8 Our Lord says, I am coming soon.  
9 **Amen. Come Lord Jesus**

10  
11 May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

[CW:Daily Prayer p184]

12  
13  
14  
15 **An Alternative Dismissal for Advent Sunday**

16  
17 *After the post-Communion prayers a Hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be*  
18 *used*

19  
20 **Acclamation**

21  
22 With love and compassion  
23 **Come, Lord Jesus!**

24  
25 With judgement and mercy  
26 **Come, Lord Jesus!**

27  
28 In power and glory  
29 **Come, Lord Jesus!**

30  
31 In wisdom and truth  
32 **Come, Lord Jesus!**

33  
34  
35 **The Dismissal Gospel**

36  
37 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
38 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

39  
40 Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the  
41 kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

42 *Mark 1.14-15*

43 *At the end the reader says*  
44 This is the gospel of the Lord.  
45 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

46  
47 **Blessing**

48 *This or another blessing may be used*  
49 May God the Father, judge all-merciful,  
50 make us worthy of a place in his kingdom.  
51 **Amen.**

1 May God the Son, coming among us in power,  
2 reveal in our midst the promise of his glory.

3 **Amen.**

4  
5 May God the Holy Spirit make us steadfast in faith,  
6 joyful in hope and constant in love.

7 **Amen.**

8  
9 And the blessing of God almighty,  
10 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
11 be among you and remain with you always.

12 **Amen.**

13 *[CW:President's p566]*

14  
15 ***Dismissal***

16 As we await our coming Saviour,  
17 go in peace to love and serve the Lord

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

19  
20 *or*

21 ... go in the peace of Christ.

22 **Thanks be to God**

23  
24  
25 **Short Passages of Scripture**

26  
27 Now is the time to wake out of sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

28  
29 *Romans 13.11*

30  
31 The night is far spent, and the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let  
32 us put on the armour of light.

33 *Romans 12.12*

34  
35 Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his  
36 people.

37 *Isaiah 52:9*

38  
39 Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O everlasting doors, and the king of glory shall  
40 come in.

41 *Psalms 24.7*

42  
43 Watch at all times, praying for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.

44 *Luke 21.36*

45  
46 Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

47 *Luke 21.28*

48  
49  
50 Our Lord says 'Surely I come quickly'. Even so; Come, Lord Jesus.

51 *Revelation 22.20*

1 The virgin is with child and will soon give birth to a Son and she will call him Emmanuel, God-is-  
2 with-us.

3 *Isaiah 7.14*

4  
5  
6 **Carol Services in the Advent Season**

7  
8 **Bidding Prayers and Introductions**

9 **1**

10 In the name of God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, and transferred us to the  
11 kingdom of his beloved Son, we welcome you: grace to you and peace.

12  
13 We are gathered together to proclaim and receive in our hearts the good news of the coming of  
14 God's Kingdom, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate with confidence and joy the birth of our Lord  
15 and Saviour Jesus Christ. We pray that we may respond in penitence and faith to the glory of his  
16 Kingdom, its works of justice and its promise of peace, its blessing and its hope.

17  
18 And as we seek to renew our allegiance to God's loving purpose, we pray for all who at this time  
19 especially need his pity and protection: the sick in body, mind or spirit; those who suffer from loss  
20 of dignity or loss of hope; those who face the future with fear, or walk in the shadow of death.

21  
22 May God, of his grace and mercy, grant to all his people a new trust in his good providence and a  
23 new obedience to his sovereign word, for to him is most justly due all glory, honour, worship and  
24 praise, world without end. **Amen.**

25 *[Promise p96]*

26  
27  
28 **2**

29 In the name of God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and made a place for us in  
30 the kingdom of his beloved Son, we welcome you: grace to you and peace.

31  
32 As we meet to celebrate anew the coming of God's Kingdom, we hear revealed the mystery of God's  
33 loving purpose for us - how that when we were far off, he met us in his Son and brought us home;  
34 how he humbled himself to take our human nature, that we might share his divine glory.

35  
36 Let us then so celebrate this coming with our carols and hymns of praise, that our lives may be  
37 charged with his life; that we may bear witness to his glory and so bring light to those who sit in  
38 darkness. So first we pray for those among whom the Christ was born: the poor and helpless, the  
39 aged and young children; the cold, the hungry, and the homeless; the victims of poverty, injustice  
40 and oppression, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved; those in despair or in the  
41 shadow of death.

42  
43 Then, as we hear again the message of peace on earth and goodwill among all his people, we pray  
44 for the leaders of the nations, that all may be inspired to work together for the establishment of  
45 justice, freedom and peace the world over.

46  
47 And that we may bear true witness to this hope in a divided world, we pray for the peace and unity  
48 of Christ's body, the Church universal, that the whole earth may live to praise his name.

49  
50 Finally, as we rejoice with the saints in heaven and on earth, we remember all who have gone before  
51 us with the sign of faith, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord, through

whom we offer up our prayers for the coming of his Kingdom, in the words he himself has taught us, saying:

*The Lord's Prayer follows.*

And may the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting, now and at all times. **Amen.**

*[Promise p96]*

**3**

It is time for us to wake out of sleep, for deliverance is nearer to us now than it was when first we believed. It is far on in the night; day is near. Let us therefore cast off the deeds of darkness and put on our armour as soldiers of the light.

The grace and peace of God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

My brothers and sisters, we enter today [*or* celebrate at this time] the solemn season of Advent in which the Church bids us prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ; a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the bread of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared; a coming we wait for when God gathers up all things in Christ. Let us in this holy season reflect on the coming of Christ who brings light to the world. Let us leave behind the darkness of sin, walk in the light that shines on our path, and renew within ourselves the hope of glory to which he beckons us. And as we turn towards the light, let us have on our hearts all those who see no light, for whom all is darkness and despair. Let us pray that they too may be illumined by Christ who is our light.

*[Promise p97]*

*The whole congregation prays silently, after which the president draws the prayers together in the Collect of Advent Sunday.*

**Patterns of Readings**

*These sequences may be shortened or varied according to local circumstances and a sermon may be preached.*

*Sequence 1: The King and his Kingdom*

*[Promise p23]*

- |   |                                  |   |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Zechariah 9.9-10<br>Psalm 72.1-8 | Rejoice greatly, your king comes to you                     |
| 2 | Jeremiah 23.5-6<br>Psalm 21.1-7  | I will raise up for David a righteous branch.               |
| 3 | Psalm 118.19-29<br>Psalm 24      | Open me the gates of righteousness                          |
| 4 | Isaiah 9.2,6-7<br>Psalm 28.7-10  | The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. |

1

5	Isaiah 7.10-15 Psalm 132.10-16	Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.
6	Romans 12.1-2; 13.(8)11-14	Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed
Canticle	Te Deum	Song of the Church
Gospel	Matthew 25.1-13	In Advent
Reading	Matthew 1.18-25	At Christmas

2

3

4 *Sequence 2: The Forerunner*

5

[Promise p25]

6

1	Exodus 3.1-6 Psalm 99	The burning bush
2	Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 103.8-17	A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord
3	Isaiah 52.7-10 Psalm 147.1-6	How beautiful on the mountains
4	Malachi 3.1-5 Psalm 97	Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me.
5	Isaiah 61.1-3,11 Psalm 146	The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.
6	Philippians 4.4-7	The Lord is at hand.
Canticle	Benedictus	Song of Zechariah
Gospel	Luke 1.5-25	The birth of John the Baptism is foretold.
Reading		

7

8

9 *Sequence 3: A vigil for prisoners and those who sit in darkness*

10

[Promise p22]

11

1	Isaiah 43.1-7 Psalm 46.1-4, 11-12	I have called you by name, you are mine.
2	Psalm 107.1-3, 10-16 Psalm 130	When they cried to the Lord, he delivered them from their distress
3	Isaiah 61.1-3,11 Psalm 146	The spirit of the Lord is upon me.
4	Isaiah 42.5-9 Psalm 43	Bring the prisoners out of darkness.
5	Isaiah 62.1-7, 10-12	You shall be called Sought Out, a city not forsaken
or	Micah 4.1-5 Psalm 85.1-7	The shall beat their swords into ploughshares
6	Ephesians 2.11-22	His is our peace, who has made us one.
Canticle	Benedictus	Song of Zachariah
Gospel	Matthew 25.31-	I was in prison and you visited me.
Reading	end	



*Sequence 4: Looking for the Light*

[Promise p24]

1	Genesis 1.1-5	And God said: Let there be light.
	Psalm 136.1-9	
2	Psalm 13	Give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death.
	Psalm 43	
3	Isaiah 45.2-8	I form light and create darkness.
	Psalm 97	
4	Baruch 4.36 – 5.9	Look to the east.
	<i>or</i> Isaiah 60.1-5a	
	Psalm 84.8-12	
5	Isaiah 9.2-3, 6-7	The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light.
	Psalm 36.5-10	
6	1 Thess 5.1-11, 23-34	You are not in darkness, brethren, for you are all sons of light.
	Canticle 12	Song of the New Jerusalem
	Gospel Luke 12.35-40	Let your loins be girded and your lamps burning.
	Reading	
	<i>or</i> John 3.16-21	I am the light of the world.

**Conclusions**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:  
**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Will you not give us life again  
**That your people may rejoice in you?**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
**And grant us your salvation.**

[Promise p99]

*or*  
 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel.  
**who has come to his people and set them free.**

Hosanna to the Son of David,  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is the coming Kingdom of our father David  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord.  
**Now and for ever, Amen.**

[Promise p99]

*or*

1 Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
2 **and blessed be his Kingdom, now and for ever.**  
3 Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.  
4 **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

[Promise p99]

5  
6  
7 *or*

8 We wait for your loving-kindness, O God,  
9 **in the midst of your temple.**

10  
11 The glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
12 **and all flesh shall see it together.**

13  
14 Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
15 **and grant us your salvation.**

[Promise p99]

16  
17  
18 *or*

19 We wait for your loving-kindness, O God,  
20 **in the midst of your temple.**

21  
22 Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
23 **who made heaven and earth.**

24  
25 Let us bless the Lord,  
26 **thanks be to God.**

[Promise p100]

27  
28  
29 *or*

30 The night is far spent, the day is at hand.  
31 Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness  
32 and put on the armour of light.

33  
34 Come, O Lord, comfort the soul of your servant.  
35 **Even so, Lord, come.**

36  
37 O Lord Jesus Christ, come  
38 **at evening time, with light,**

39  
40 And in the morning, with your glory,  
41 **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

42  
43 He who receives our prayers says:  
44 Surely I come quickly.  
45 I am the root and offspring of David,  
46 I am the bright and morning star.  
47 **Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.**

48  
49 *Further blessings and endings may be found in the Advent seasonal material above.*  
50

## Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath has four red or blue candles in a ring around a white or gold candle. The first candle is lit on Advent Sunday; additional ones are lit, one on each Sunday, and the white or gold one on Christmas Day.

The new candle each week may appropriately be lit during the Prayers of Penitence. In this case the material entitled 'Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath' is used. Alternatively the candles may be lit after the Gospel Reading, before the Peace, or after Communion, where the prayer(s) used at the lighting become a natural Post-Communion prayer. All five candles may appropriately be alight during services through the Christmas season.

There are several traditions about the meaning or theme of each candle. The scheme that accords best with the Common Worship Principal Service Lectionary is:

Advent 1	The Patriarchs
Advent 2	The Prophets
Advent 3	John the Baptist
Advent 4	The Virgin Mary
Christmas Day	The Christ

Each of the four Sundays then reminds us of those who prepared for the coming of Christ. 'The Patriarchs' can naturally focus on Abraham, our father in faith, and David, Jesus' ancestor in whose city he was born. 'The Prophets' gives an opportunity to reflect on the way the birth of the Messiah was 'foretold'. John, who proclaimed the Saviour, and Mary, who bore him in her womb, complete the picture.

The prayers below reflect these four themes. The second and third prayer in each case are written with children in mind, and the third is to be said by the congregation together. Only one prayer need be used on any occasion, though the second and third fit well together in each case.

### *Advent 1*

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors:  
to you be praise and glory for ever!

You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith  
and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment.

May we be obedient to your call  
and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ,  
a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;  
for you are our light and our salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

1 God of Abraham and Sarah,  
2 and all the patriarchs of old,  
3 you are our Father too.  
4 Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ,  
5 Son of God and Son of David.  
6 Help us in preparing to celebrate his birth  
7 to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit  
8 to make his home among us.  
9 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
10 the Light who is coming into the world.

11  
12 **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,**  
13 **born in David's city of Bethlehem,**  
14 **born like him to be a king:**  
15 **Be born in our hearts at Christmas,**  
16 **be king of our lives today.**

17  
18 *Advent 2*

19 Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true,  
20 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
21 Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets  
22 but in our days you speak through your Son  
23 whom you have appointed the heir of all things.  
24 Grant us, your people, to walk in his light  
25 that we may be found ready and watching  
26 when he comes again in glory and judgement;  
27 for you are our light and our salvation.  
28 **Blessed be God for ever.**

29  
30 God our Father,  
31 you spoke to the prophets of old  
32 of a Saviour who would bring peace.  
33 You helped them to spread the joyful message  
34 of his coming kingdom.  
35 Help us, as we prepare to celebrate his birth,  
36 to share with those around us  
37 the good news of your power and love.  
38 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
39 the Light who is coming into the world.

40  
41 **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,**  
42 **the prophets said you would bring peace**  
43 **and save your people in trouble.**  
44 **Give peace in our hearts at Christmas**  
45 **and show all the world God's love.**

1 *Advent 3*

2 Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true:  
3 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
4 Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth  
5 as a burning and shining light.  
6 May we your servants rejoice in his light,  
7 and so be led to witness to him  
8 who is the Lord of our coming Kingdom,  
9 Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.  
10 **Blessed be God for ever.**

11  
12 God our Father,  
13 you gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth in their old age  
14 a son called John.  
15 He grew up strong in spirit,  
16 prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,  
17 and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.  
18 Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,  
19 to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,  
20 and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.  
21 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
22 the Light who is coming into the world.

23  
24 **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,**  
25 **John told the people to prepare,**  
26 **for you were very near.**  
27 **As Christmas grows closer day by day,**  
28 **help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

29  
30 *Advent 4*

31 Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle:  
32 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
33 Your light has shone in our darkened world  
34 through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;  
35 grant that we who have seen your glory  
36 may daily be renewed in your image  
37 and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,  
38 who is the Lord and Saviour of all.  
39 **Blessed be God for ever.**

40  
41 God our Father,  
42 the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary  
43 that she was to be the mother of your Son.  
44 Though Mary was afraid,  
45 she responded to your call with joy.  
46 Help us, whom you call to serve you,  
47 to share like her in your great work  
48 of bringing to our world your love and healing.  
49 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
50 the Light who is coming into the world.

51

1 **Lord Jesus, Light of the world,**  
2 **blessed is Gabriel who brought good news;**  
3 **blessed is Mary your mother and ours.**  
4 **Bless your Church preparing for Christmas;**  
5 **and bless us your children who long for your coming.**

6  
7 *Christmas Day*

8 Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, King of Peace:  
9 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
10 The new light of your incarnate word  
11 gives gladness in our sorrow,  
12 and a presence in our isolation.  
13 Fill our lives with your light,  
14 until they overflow with gladness and praise.  
15 **Blessed be God for ever.**

16  
17 God our Father,  
18 today the Saviour is born  
19 and those who live in darkness are seeing a great light.  
20 Help us, who greet the birth of Christ with joy,  
21 to live in the light of your Son,  
22 and to share the good news of your love.  
23 We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
24 the Light who has come into the world.

25  
26 **Lord Jesus, Light of Light,**  
27 **you have come among us.**  
28 **Help us who live by your light**  
29 **to shine as lights in your world.**  
30 **Glory to God in the highest!**

31 [Promise p136-140\*]  
32  
33

34 **Prayers of Penitence at the Advent Wreath**

35  
36 *First Week of Advent*

37 Heavenly Father,  
38 you have created a universe of light:  
39 forgive us when we return to darkness.  
40 Lord, have mercy.  
41 **Lord, have mercy.**

42  
43 Lord Jesus,  
44 you are the Light of the world:  
45 cleanse and heal our blinded sight.  
46 Christ, have mercy.  
47 **Christ, have mercy.**

1 Holy Spirit,  
2 you give us light in our hearts:  
3 renew us in faith and love.  
4 Lord, have mercy.  
5 **Lord, have mercy.**

6  
7

8 *Second Week of Advent*

9 Heavenly Father,  
10 you call us to repent of our sins:  
11 soften our proud and stubborn hearts.  
12 Lord, have mercy.  
13 **Lord, have mercy.**

14

15 Lord Jesus,  
16 you declared the forgiveness of God:  
17 teach us to forgive one another.  
18 Christ, have mercy.  
19 **Christ, have mercy.**

20

21 Holy Spirit,  
22 you search our hearts and show us the truth:  
23 Direct us in your way of righteousness.  
24 Lord, have mercy.  
25 **Lord, have mercy.**

26

27

28 *Third Week of Advent*

29 Heavenly Father,  
30 you call us to prepare for the coming of your Son:  
31 forgive us our unreadiness to receive him.  
32 Lord, have mercy.  
33 **Lord, have mercy.**

34

35 Lord Jesus,  
36 you were proclaimed by John the Baptist:  
37 help us also to prepare your way.  
38 Christ, have mercy.  
39 **Christ, have mercy.**

40

41 Holy Spirit,  
42 you speak through the prophets:  
43 make us attentive to hear your word.  
44 Lord, have mercy.  
45 **Lord, have mercy.**

46

47

*Fourth Week of Advent*

Heavenly Father,  
you exalted the humble and meek:  
give us humble and contrite hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you grew towards birth in the Virgin's womb:  
be planted also in our hearts and lives.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit,  
you overshadowed Mary  
that she might become the God-bearer:  
fill us with your heavenly gifts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*This absolution may be used.*  
Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive *us* our sins,  
open *our* eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen *us* to do God's will  
and give *us* the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p136]

**Advent Antiphons**

These antiphons, or refrains, all beginning 'O ...', were sung before and after the Magnificat at Vespers, according to the Roman use, on the seven days preceding Christmas Eve, i.e. 17-23 December. They are addresses to God, calling for him to come as teacher and deliverer, with a tapestry of scriptural titles and pictures which describe his saving work in Christ. The old Sarum rite began the antiphons on 16 December, and inserted an additional antiphon ('O Virgin of virgins') on 23 December; this is reflected in the BCP Calendar, where 16 December is designated O Sapientia (O Wisdom). The *Common Worship* calendar has adopted the more widely used form. It is not known when and by whom the antiphons were composed, but they were already in use by the eighth century.

**A Translation**

*17 December – O Sapientia*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
reaching from one end to the other mightily,  
and sweetly ordering all things:  
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

*cf Ecclesiasticus 24.3; Wisdom 8.1*



1 *18 December – O Adonai*

2 O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,  
3 who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush  
4 and gave him the law on Sinai:  
5 Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

6 *cf Exodus 3.2, 24.12*  
7

8 *19 December – O Radix Jesse*

9 O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
10 before you kings will shut their mouths,  
11 to you the nations will make their prayer:  
12 Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

13 *cf Isaiah 11.10, 45.14, 52.15; Romans 15.12*  
14

15 *20 December – O Clavis David*

16 O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;  
17 you open and no one can shut;  
18 you shut and no one can open:  
19 Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,  
20 those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

21 *cf Isaiah 22.22, 42.7*  
22

23 *21 December – O Oriens*

24 O Morning Star,  
25 splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:  
26 Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness  
27 and the shadow of death.

28 *cf Malachi 4.2*  
29

30 *22 December – O Rex Gentium*

31 O King of the nations, and their desire,  
32 the cornerstone making both one:  
33 Come and save the human race,  
34 which you fashioned from clay.

35 *cf Isaiah 28.16; Ephesians 2.14*  
36

37 *23 December – O Emmanuel*

38 O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,  
39 the hope of the nations and their Saviour:  
40 Come and save us, O Lord our God.

41 *cf Isaiah 7.14*  
42  
43

44 **Evening Prayer Lectionary**  
45

46 This lectionary may be adopted at Evening Prayer for the week before Christmas  
47

1	O Sapientia	17 December	Psalms 90, 11 Ecclesiasticus 24.1-9 1 Corinthians 2.1-13
	O Adonai	18 December	Psalms 106 Exodus 3.1-6 Acts 7.20-36
	O Radix Jesse	19 December	Psalms 50 Isaiah 11.1-9 Romans 15.7-13
	O Clavis David	20 December	Psalms 89.1-34 Isaiah 22.21-23 Revelation 3.7-13
	O Oriens	21 December	Psalms 27 Numbers 24.15b-19 Revelation 22.10-21
	O Rex Gentium	22 December	Psalms 118 Jeremiah 30.7-11a Acts 4.1-12
	O Emmanuel	23 December	Psalms 80 Isaiah 7.10-15 Matthew 1.18-23

[Norwich Cathedral]

## Resources

## Advent Prose

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,  
and remember not our sins for ever.  
Your holy cities have become a desert,  
Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;  
our holy and beautiful house,  
where our ancestors praised you.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean;  
we have all withered like a leaf,  
and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away.  
You have hidden your face from us,  
and abandoned us to our iniquities.

**Pour down, O heavens, from above,  
and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

1 You are my witnesses, says the Lord,  
2 and my servant whom I have chosen,  
3 that you may know me and believe me.  
4 I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver;  
5 what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

6  
7 **Pour down, O heavens, from above,**  
8 **and let the skies rain down righteousness.**

9  
10 Comfort my people, comfort them;  
11 my salvation shall not be delayed.  
12 I have swept your offences away like a cloud;  
13 fear not, for I will save you.  
14 I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,  
15 your redeemer.

16  
17 **Pour down, O heavens, from above,**  
18 **and let the skies rain down righteousness**

# Christmas Season

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## 1 Introduction to the Season

2  
3 The celebration of Christ's incarnation at Christmas is one of the two poles of the Christian year.  
4 The wonderful mystery of God's dwelling among us in the fullness of humanity, as Emmanuel,  
5 foretold by the prophets and born of Mary, provides the material of the feast:  
6

7 Hark, hark, the wise eternal Word,  
8 Like a weak infant cries!  
9 In form of servant is the Lord,  
10 And God in cradle lies. (Thomas Pestel)

11  
12 Christmas is much more than simply the celebration of Jesus' birth, and neither of the great  
13 Christmas morning readings (Hebrews 1 and John 1) is taken from the infancy narratives. The task  
14 of the Christmas liturgy is to recall us, amid all the joyful customs and celebrations of Christmas, to  
15 this central truth of the Word made flesh for our salvation.  
16

17 It is of course Christ's nativity that has provided the occasion for this festival of the incarnation,  
18 since the end of the third century. The Christmas Crib and the Nativity Play can both be said to  
19 descend from the tableau of Christ's birth that St Francis arranged when he celebrated Christmas at  
20 Greccio in 1223. Christmas carols are a mediaeval tradition, which has been notably developed  
21 from the end of the nineteenth century. The Festival of Lessons and Carols is itself an influential  
22 English creation of the late nineteenth century, made widespread by the choir of King's College,  
23 Cambridge, in the first half of the twentieth.  
24

25 The Christmas season is often celebrated for twelve days, ending with the Epiphany. Contemporary  
26 use has sought to express an alternative tradition, in which Christmas lasts for a full forty days,  
27 ending with the Feast of the Presentation on 2 February. The days around 25 December are a  
28 principal holiday in the secular calendar of Britain, and commercial pressures have led to much of  
29 Christmas celebration being displaced into Advent. It has become a still greater challenge to  
30 celebrate as they deserve the saints of the Christmas season: St Stephen, who first paid with his life  
31 for following the incarnate Lord; St John, who was believed to have lived to great old age in  
32 profound meditation on the Word made flesh; and the Holy Innocents, who draw our attention to the  
33 plight of children in a world where the implications of the birth of the Christ-child are not yet  
34 manifest. Resources for these days may be found in *Common Worship: Festivals*. New Year's Day  
35 is an important moment in the civil rather than the Christian calendar, but it provides the original  
36 occasion for the searching Covenant Renewal service of the Methodist tradition.  
37  
38

## 39 Seasonal Material

### 41 Invitations to Confession

42  
43 Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:  
44 'You shall call his name Jesus,  
45 for he will save his people from their sins.'  
46 Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God  
47 through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

48 *Matthew 1.21 [CW p302]*  
49  
50  
51

1 *or, particularly during the night*  
2 Christ the Light of the world has come  
3 to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
4 Let us turn to the light and confess our sins.

[Promise p172]

5  
6  
7 *or, particularly in the morning*  
8 The sun of righteousness has dawned  
9 with healing in his wings.  
10 Let us come to the light of Christ, confessing our sins  
11 in penitence and faith.

[Malachi 4.2: New Patterns B24]

12  
13  
14  
15 **Kyrie Confession**  
16

17 God our Father,  
18 you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
19 forgive our failure to receive him.  
20 Lord, have mercy.  
21 **Lord, have mercy.**

22  
23 Jesus our Saviour,  
24 you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
25 forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
26 Christ, have mercy.  
27 **Christ, have mercy.**

28  
29 Spirit of Love,  
30 your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
31 forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
32 Lord, have mercy.  
33 **Lord, have mercy.**

34  
35 **Confession**  
36

37 Lord of grace and truth,  
38 we confess our unworthiness  
39 to stand in your presence as your children.  
40 We have sinned:  
41 **forgive and heal us.**

42  
43 The Virgin Mary accepted your call  
44 to be the mother of Jesus.  
45 Forgive our disobedience to your will.  
46 We have sinned:  
47 **forgive and heal us.**  
48

1 Your Son our Saviour  
2 was born in poverty in a manger.  
3 Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
4 We have sinned:  
5 **forgive and heal us.**

6  
7 The shepherds left their flocks  
8 to go to Bethlehem.  
9 Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.  
10 We have sinned:  
11 **forgive and heal us.**

12  
13 The wise men followed the star  
14 to find Jesus the King.  
15 Forgive our reluctance to seek you.  
16 We have sinned:  
17 **forgive and heal us.**

[CW p123]

18  
19

**Absolutions**

20  
21

22 May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
23 draw *you* to himself  
24 that *you* may behold the glory of his Son,  
25 the Word made flesh,  
26 and be cleansed from all *your* sins,  
27 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p135]

28  
29

30 *or*

31 May God who loved the world so much  
32 that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
33 forgive *us our* sins  
34 and make *us* holy to serve him in the world,  
35 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p136]

36  
37

**Gospel Acclamation**

38  
39

40 Alleluia, alleluia.  
41 The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
42 and we have seen his glory.  
43 **Alleluia.**

*John 1.14*

44

[CW p302]



**Intercessions**

1  
2  
3 Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.  
4  
5 Christ, born in a stable,  
6 give courage to all who are homeless.  
7 Jesus Saviour  
8 **hear our prayer.**  
9  
10 Christ, for whom the angels sang,  
11 give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.  
12 Jesus Saviour  
13 **hear our prayer.**  
14  
15 Christ, worshipped by the shepherds,  
16 give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.  
17 Jesus Saviour  
18 **hear our prayer.**  
19  
20 Christ, to whom the wise men knelt,  
21 give humility and wisdom to all who govern.  
22 Jesus Saviour  
23 **hear our prayer.**  
24  
25 Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,  
26 give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you:  
27 Jesus Saviour  
28 **hear our prayer.**  
29  
30 **Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary,**  
31 **you know us and love us**  
32 **you share our lives**  
33 **and hear our prayer.**  
34 **Glory to you for ever.**  
35  
36  
37 *or*  
38 Let us pray to our Incarnate Lord, who has brought us  
39 out of darkness and into his own marvellous light.  
40  
41 Christ born for us,  
42 Son of God given for us:  
43 help us to know you,  
44 to worship and to serve you ...  
45 Lord, in your mercy:  
46 **hear our prayer.**  
47

*[New Patterns F53\*]*

1 Wonderful counsellor,  
2 you order all things with your wisdom:  
3 help the church to reveal the mystery of your love  
4 and fill her with the Spirit of truth...  
5 Lord, in your mercy:  
6 **hear our prayer.**  
7  
8 Mighty God,  
9 the government is on your shoulders:  
10 guide the leaders of the nations  
11 and bring in your kingdom of justice and righteousness...  
12 Lord, in your mercy:  
13 **hear our prayer.**  
14  
15 Everlasting father,  
16 you call us to live together in unity:  
17 protect by your mercy all your children,  
18 bless our families and renew our communities...  
19 Lord, in your mercy:  
20 **hear our prayer.**  
21  
22 Prince of peace,  
23 you bring reconciliation through the cross:  
24 by your healing power give to all who suffer...  
25 your gift of wholeness and peace.  
26 Lord, in your mercy:  
27 **hear our prayer.**  
28  
29 Lord Jesus Christ,  
30 Son of the Father,  
31 full of the Spirit,  
32 **hear our prayer,**  
33 **receive our praises,**  
34 **fill our lives. Amen.**  
35  
36 *or*  
37 In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
38  
39 Father, in this holy night<sup>1</sup> your Son our Saviour  
40 was born in human flesh.  
41 Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.  
42 Holy God  
43 **hear our prayer.**  
44

---

<sup>1</sup> The phrase 'in this holy night' makes the prayer particularly appropriate for use on Christmas Eve during the night. With the omission of this phrase (or its replacement with 'at this holy time') it is suitable for use on other occasions during the Christmas season.

1 In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.  
2 Protect with your love those who have no home  
3 and all who live in poverty.  
4 Holy God  
5 **hear our prayer.**  
6  
7 In this holy night Mary in the pain of labour brought your Son to birth.  
8 Hold in your hand (...and) all who are in pain or distress.  
9 Holy God  
10 **hear our prayer.**  
11  
12 In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.  
13 Bring comfort to (...and) all who suffer in the sadness of our world.  
14 Holy God  
15 **hear our prayer.**  
16  
17 In this holy night the angels sang 'Peace to God's people on earth'.  
18 Strengthen those who work for peace and justice  
19 in (...and in) all the world.  
20 Holy God  
21 **hear our prayer.**  
22  
23 In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.  
24 Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.  
25 Holy God  
26 **hear our prayer.**  
27  
28 In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family,  
29 and saw the baby lying in the manger.  
30 Bless our homes and all whom we love.  
31 Holy God  
32 **hear our prayer.**  
33  
34 In this holy night heaven is come down to earth,  
35 and earth is raised to heaven.  
36 Keep in safety (...and) all those who have passed through death  
37 in the hope of heaven.  
38 Holy God  
39 **hear our prayer.**  
40  
41 In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate his birth.  
42 Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.  
43 Holy God  
44 **hear our prayer.**  
45

1 Father,  
2 in this holy night angels and shepherds  
3 worshipped at the manger throne.  
4 Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary,  
5 Joseph and the saints  
6 through him who is your Word made flesh,  
7 our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[New Patterns F55\*]

8  
9  
10 *or, a Litany for the World:*

11 Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.  
12 Let us bring before God the needs of the world.

13  
14 Wonderful Counsellor,  
15 give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations.  
16 Lord, in your mercy  
17 **hear our prayer.**

18  
19 Mighty God,  
20 make the whole world know  
21 that the government is on your shoulders.  
22 Lord, in your mercy  
23 **hear our prayer.**

24  
25 Everlasting Father,  
26 establish your reign of justice and righteousness for ever.  
27 Lord, in your mercy  
28 **hear our prayer.**

29  
30 Prince of Peace,  
31 bring in the endless kingdom of your peace.  
32 Lord, in your mercy  
33 **hear our prayer.**

34  
35 Almighty Lord,  
36 **hear our prayer,**  
37 **and fulfil your purposes in us,**  
38 **as you accomplished your will**  
39 **in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

[Promise p187-8]

40  
41  
42 *or, for use when small children are present. The prayer should be very simple, if possible drawing*  
43 *from the children the subjects for intercession.*

44  
45 Jesus, whose mother was Mary:  
46 we pray for .....(families)  
47 Lord Jesus,  
48 **hear our prayer.**  
49

1 Jesus, cradled in a manger:  
2 we pray for .....(*homeless, refugees*)  
3 Lord Jesus,  
4 **hear our prayer.**

5  
6 Jesus, sharing the stable with the animals:  
7 we pray for.....(*the creation*)  
8 Lord Jesus,  
9 **hear our prayer.**

10  
11  
12 Jesus, worshipped by shepherds and kings:  
13 we pray for .....(*nations, races, peoples*)  
14 Lord Jesus,  
15 **hear our prayer.**

16  
17 Jesus, our Emmanuel:  
18 we pray for.....(*those in particular need*)  
19 Lord Jesus,  
20 **hear our prayer.**

21  
22  
23 **Introductions to the Peace**

24  
25 Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
26 and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

*Isaiah 9.6 [CW p302]*

27  
28 *or*

29 Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights. *Luke 2.14*

30  
31  
32 **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

33  
34 Word made flesh, life of the world,  
35 in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
36 by your Spirit may we share in your riches. **Amen.**

37  
38  
39 **Prefaces**

40  
41 And now we give you thanks  
42 because by the power of the Holy Spirit  
43 he took our nature upon him  
44 and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother,  
45 that being himself without sin  
46 he might make us clean from all sin.

47 *[CW p302]*  
48

1 *or*  
2 And now we give you thanks  
3 because in coming to dwell among us as man,  
4 he revealed the radiance of your glory  
5 and brought us out of darkness  
6 into your own marvellous light.

[CW:President's p570]

8  
9 *or*  
10 And now we give you thanks  
11 because in the incarnation of the Word  
12 a new light has dawned upon the world;  
13 you have become one with us  
14 that we might become one with you in your glorious kingdom.

[New Patterns G101]

15  
16  
17 *or*  
18 And now we give you thanks  
19 because for love of our fallen race  
20 he most wonderfully and humbly chose to be made man,  
21 and to take our nature as nevermore to lay it by,  
22 so that we might be born again by your Spirit  
23 and restored in your image.

[Promise p180]

24  
25  
26 *The Holy Family*  
27 And now we give you thanks  
28 because in his earthly childhood  
29 you entrusted him to the care of a human family.  
30 In Mary and Joseph you give us an example  
31 of love and devotion to him,  
32 and also a pattern of family life.

[CW:President's p570]

33  
34  
35 *Blessed Virgin Mary*  
36 And now we give you thanks  
37 because in choosing the blessed Virgin Mary  
38 to be the mother of your Son  
39 you have exalted the humble and meek.  
40 Your angel hailed her as most highly favoured;  
41 with all generations we call her blessed  
42 and with her we rejoice and magnify your holy name.

[CW:President's p570]

43  
44  
45  
46 **Extended Preface**  
47

48 All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
49 mighty Creator, ever-living God.  
50 We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
51 our Saviour Jesus Christ,

1 who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
2 was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,  
3 and lived as one of us.  
4 In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
5 you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
6 to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
7 In him we see our God made visible  
8 and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
9 Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
10 we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
11 and sing our joyful hymn of praise:  
12  
13

## Blessings and Endings

14  
15 Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
16 things earthly and heavenly,  
17 fill you with his grace  
18 and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
19 and the blessing ...  
20

[CW p303]

21  
22 *or*

23 May the joy of the angels,  
24 the eagerness of the shepherds,  
25 the perseverance of the wise men,  
26 the obedience of Joseph and Mary,  
27 and the peace of the Christ child  
28 be yours this Christmas;  
29 and the blessing...  
30

[CW:President's p571]

31  
32 *or*

33 Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
34 fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
35 and the blessing ...  
36

[CW:President's p581]

37  
38 *or*

39 May the Father,  
40 who has loved the eternal Son  
41 from before the foundation of the world,  
42 shed his love upon you his children. **Amen.**  
43

44 May Christ,  
45 who by his incarnation gathered into one  
46 things earthly and heavenly,  
47 fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**  
48

1 May the Holy Spirit,  
2 by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
3 give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

4  
5 And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p571]

6  
7  
8 **Acclamations**  
9

10 The people who walked in darkness  
11 **have seen a great light.**

12  
13 For to us a child is born  
14 **to us a Son is given.**

15  
16 His name will be called  
17 wonderful, counsellor, mighty God,  
18 **the everlasting Father,**  
19 **the Prince of Peace.**

20  
21 Glory to God in the highest  
22 **and peace to his people on earth.**

23  
24 *or*

25 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
26 **he has come to his people and set them free.**

27  
28 Light has sprung up for the righteous  
29 **and joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted.**

30  
31 Glory to God in the highest  
32 **and peace to his people on earth.**

33 [Promise p152]  
34

35 *or*

36 The Word of Life which was from the beginning  
37 **we proclaim to you.**

38  
39 The darkness is passing away  
40 and the true light is already shining,  
41 **the Word of Life which was from the beginning.**

42  
43 That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes,  
44 and touched with our own hands,  
45 **we proclaim to you.**

46  
47 For our fellowship is with the Father,  
48 and with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:  
49 **the Word of Life which was from the beginning**  
50 **we proclaim to you.**

51 [CW p47]



1 *or*  
2 See what love the Father has given us  
3 **that we should be called the children of God.**  
4

5 You are my sons and daughters  
6 this day I have begotten you.  
7 **See what love the Father has given us.**  
8

9 As many as received him,  
10 to them he gave power to become the children of God.  
11 **See what love the Father has given us.**  
12

13 Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
14 and to the Holy Spirit.  
15 **See what love the Father has given us**  
16 **that we should be called the children of God.**  
17

[Promise p152-3]

18 *or*  
19 Let us bless the living God:  
20

21 He was born of the Virgin Mary,  
22 **revealed in his glory,**  
23

24 worshipped by the angels,  
25 **proclaimed among the nations,**  
26

27 believed in throughout the world,  
28 **exalted to the highest heavens.**  
29

30 Blessed be God our strength and our salvation  
31 **now and for ever. Amen.**  
32

[CCP p246]

33 *or*  
34 The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
35 full of grace and truth.  
36 **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,**  
37 **full of grace and truth.**  
38

39 And we have seen his glory,  
40 the glory as of a father's only son,  
41 **full of grace and truth.**  
42

43 Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
44 and to the Holy Spirit.  
45 **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,**  
46 **full of grace and truth.**  
47

[CW: Daily Prayer p194]

48

**Short Passages of Scripture**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light:  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shone *Isaiah 9.2*

I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people: today in the town of David a  
Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord *Luke 2.10*

The shepherds said, 'Let us go to Bethlehem, and see the  
thing that the Lord has made known to us'. *Luke 2.15*

The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us:  
and we beheld his glory. *John 1.14*

The bread of God is he who comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world. *John 6.33*

**Eucharist of Christmas Night or Morning**

***The Gathering***

*The service may begin at the Crib.  
A hymn or carol may be sung.*

*These words may be said.*  
Welcome all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span.  
Summer in winter, Day in night,  
Heaven in earth, and God in man.

Great little one whose all-embracing birth  
Brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.

*[Promise p171]*

*or*

Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord.

**Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God,

**And now we see you as a new-born child.**

*[Promise p171]*

**The Greeting**

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

*[CW p167]*

**Dedication of the Crib**

*If there is no dedication of the crib the service continues with the prayers of penitence.*

Dear friends, as we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father,  
on this night (day)  
your Son Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary  
for us and for our salvation;  
bless this crib which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth; may all who see it be  
strengthened in faith,  
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring;  
who is alive and reigns for ever. **Amen.**

*[Promise p171]*

**Prayers of Penitence**

*The Prayers of Penitence may be used at the Crib.*

Christ the Light of the World has come  
to dispel the darkness of our hearts.  
In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

*[Promise p172]*

*Silence is kept.*

God our Father,  
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:  
forgive our failure to receive him.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy**

Jesus our Saviour,  
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:  
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love,  
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:  
forgive the hardness of our hearts.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Promise p172]*

*or another authorized form of Confession may be used.*

1 May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
2 draw *you* to himself  
3 that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
4 the Word made flesh,  
5 and be cleansed from all your sins,  
6 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p123]

7  
8  
9 *The ministers move from the Crib to the place where the Liturgy of the Word is celebrated.*

10  
11  
12 **Gloria in Excelsis**

13  
14 *The Gloria in Excelsis may be used.*

15  
16 **The Collect**

17  
18 *The President introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
19 Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration  
20 that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

21  
22 *Silence is kept*

23  
24 *At night*  
25 Eternal God,  
26 who made this most holy night  
27 to shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
28 bring us, who have known the revelation  
29 of that light on earth,  
30 to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
31 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
32 who is alive and reigns with you,  
33 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
34 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

35 [CW p380]

36 *In daytime*  
37 Almighty God,  
38 you have given us your only-begotten Son  
39 to take our nature upon him  
40 and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin:  
41 grant that we, who have been born again  
42 and made your children by adoption and grace,  
43 may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
44 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
45 who is alive and reigns with you,  
46 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
47 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

48 [CW p381]

1 *or*  
2 Lord Jesus Christ,  
3 your birth at Bethlehem  
4 draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:  
5 accept our heartfelt praise,  
6 as we worship you,  
7 our Saviour and our eternal God.

[CW: Additional Collects]

10 ***The Liturgy of the Word***

12 **Readings**

14 *Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

16 *At the end of each the reader may say*  
17 *This is the word of the Lord.*

18 **Thanks be to God.**

20 *This canticle or a psalm follows the first reading, or other hymns and carols may be used between*  
21 *the readings.*

23 **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

25 1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse:  
26 and a branch shall grow out of its roots,

28 2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him:  
29 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

31 3 The spirit of counsel and might:  
32 the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. **[R]**

34 4 He shall not judge by what his eyes see:  
35 or decide by what his ears hear,

37 5 But with righteousness he shall judge the poor:  
38 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. **[R]**

40 6 The wolf shall dwell with the lamb:  
41 and the leopard lie down with the kid,

43 7 The calf and the young lion together;  
44 with a little child to lead them.

46 8 They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain:  
47 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
48 as the waters cover the sea.

50 **The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him.**

[CW: Daily Prayer p517: Canticle 25]

**Gospel Reading**

*One of these acclamations may herald the Gospel reading*

Today Christ is born:

**Alleluia!**

Today the Saviour has come:

**Alleluia!**

Today the angels sing on earth:

**Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest!**

*[Promise p176]*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia.**

*[CW p302]*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

*An authorized translation of the Nicene Creed is used.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

*The following form may be used. Insertions should be brief. When used during the day, the words 'on this holy day' are substituted for 'in this holy night'.*

Father, in this holy night your Son our Saviour  
was born in human flesh.

Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God

**hear our prayer.**

1 In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.  
2 Protect with your love those who have no home  
3 and all who live in poverty.  
4 Holy God  
5 **hear our prayer.**  
6  
7 In this holy night Mary in the pain of labour brought your Son to birth.  
8 Hold in your hand (...and) all who are in pain or distress.  
9 Holy God  
10 **hear our prayer.**  
11  
12 In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.  
13 Bring comfort to (...and) all who suffer in the sadness of our world.  
14 Holy God  
15 **hear our prayer.**  
16 In this holy night the angels sang 'Peace to God's people on earth'.  
17 Strengthen those who work for peace and justice  
18 in (...and in) all the world.  
19 Holy God  
20 **hear our prayer.**  
21  
22 In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.  
23 Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.  
24 Holy God  
25 **hear our prayer.**  
26  
27 In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family,  
28 and saw the baby lying in the manger.  
29 Bless our homes and all whom we love.  
30 Holy God  
31 **hear our prayer.**  
32  
33 In this holy night heaven is come down to earth,  
34 and earth is raised to heaven.  
35 Keep in safety (...and) all those who have passed through death  
36 in the hope of heaven.  
37 Holy God  
38 **hear our prayer.**  
39  
40 In this holy night Christians the world over celebrate his birth.  
41 Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.  
42 Holy God  
43 **hear our prayer.**  
44  
45 Father,  
46 in this holy night angels and shepherds  
47 worshipped at the manger throne.  
48 Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with Mary,  
49 Joseph and the saints  
50 through him who is your Word made flesh,  
51 our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[New Patterns F55\*]

***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

**The Peace**

*(at night)*

This holy night the angels sang 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all in whom he delights'.

*Luke 2.14*

*(in daytime)*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

*Isaiah 9.6 [CW p302]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table  
Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*This prayer may be said*

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
by your Spirit may we share in your riches. **Amen.**

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers. One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

And now we give you thanks  
because in the incarnation of the Word  
a new light has dawned upon the world;  
you have become one with us  
that we might become one with you in your glorious kingdom.

*[New Patterns G101]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because for love of our fallen race  
he most wonderfully and humbly chose to be made man,  
and to take our nature as nevermore to lay it by,  
so that we might be born again by your Spirit  
and restored in your image.

*[Promise p180]*



1 *or*  
2 All glory and honour be your always and everywhere,  
3 mighty Creator, ever-living God.  
4 We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
5 our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
6 who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
7 and (*on this night*) was born of the Virgin Mary  
8 by the power of your Spirit,  
9 and lived as one of us.  
10 In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
11 you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
12 to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
13 In him we see our God made visible  
14 and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
15 Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
16 we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
17 and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

[CW p303 (+ “on this night”)]

**The Lord's Prayer**

21 *The Lord's Prayer is said.*

**Breaking of the Bread**

26 *The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

28 We break this bread  
29 to share in the body of Christ.  
30 **Though we are many, we are one body,**  
31 **because we all share in one bread.**

33 *The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

**Giving of Communion**

37 *The president says this or another invitation to communion.*

39 Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.  
40 **Lord, give us this bread always.**

[Promise p182]

43 *The Prayer of Humble Access may be said.*

45 *The president and people receive communion.*

47 *Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*

49 **Amen.**

1 *During the distribution hymns, carols and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is*  
2 *followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

3  
4 **Prayer after Communion**

5  
6 *Silence is kept.*

7  
8 *The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

9  
10 *At night*

11 God our Father,  
12 in this night you have made known to us again  
13 the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
14 confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him  
15 until the day dawns  
16 and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.  
17 **To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.**

18 [CW p308]  
19

20 *In daytime*

21 God our Father,  
22 whose Word has come among us  
23 in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
24 may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
25 and shine in our words and deeds;  
26 through him who is Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

27 [CW p381]  
28

29 *All may say one of these prayers.*

30  
31 **Almighty God,**  
32 **we thank you for feeding us**  
33 **with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
34 **Through him we offer you our souls and bodies**  
35 **to be a living sacrifice.**  
36 **Send us out**  
37 **in the power of your Spirit**  
38 **to live and work**  
39 **to your praise and glory.**  
40 **Amen.**

41 [CW p182]  
42

43 *or*

44 **Father of all,**  
45 **we give you thanks and praise,**  
46 **that when we were still far off**  
47 **you met us in your Son and brought us home.**  
48 **Dying and living, he declared your love,**  
49 **gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.**  
50 **May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;**  
51 **we who drink his cup bring life to others;**

1 **we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.**  
2 **Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,**  
3 **so we and all your children shall be free,**  
4 **and the whole earth live to praise your name;**  
5 **through Christ our Lord.**  
6 **Amen.**

[CWp182]

7  
8  
9 ***The Dismissal***

10  
11 *A hymn may be sung.*

12  
13 **The Dismissal Gospel**

14  
15 *A minister may proclaim the prologue to the Gospel according to John (John 1.1-14). This may be*  
16 *done either before or after the Blessing.*

17  
18 Hear the good news of the Word made flesh according to John.  
19 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

20  
21 *At the end*  
22 This is the gospel of the Lord.  
23 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

24  
25 *The President uses this or another Christmas Blessing*

26  
27 May the Father,  
28 who has loved the eternal Son  
29 from before the foundation of the world,  
30 shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

31  
32 May Christ,  
33 who by his incarnation gathered into one  
34 things earthly and heavenly,  
35 fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

36  
37 May the Holy Spirit  
38 by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
39 give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p571]

40  
41 And the blessing of God almighty,  
42 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
43 be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

44  
45 *A minister dismisses the people.*  
46 *These words may be used.*  
47 Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.  
48 **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

49  
50 *The ministers and people depart.*

# Carol Services in the Christmas Season

## Bidding Prayers and Introductions

### 1

*The Service of Nine Lessons with Carols was first drawn up by Edward Benson when Bishop of Truro for use in his cathedral. It was simplified and adapted for use in the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, in 1918 by the Dean, Eric Milner-White, who wrote the Bidding Prayer which follows.*

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood in the Church he came to build, and especially in this city (town, village) of...and diocese of ...

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

[Promise p148]

**Our Father, which art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that 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.**

[CW p242]

May the Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

[Promise p148]

**2**

I welcome you, on behalf of...

We have come together as the family of God, in our Father's presence, to celebrate the great festival of Christmas. In this service we hear and receive the good news of the birth of Christ and we offer to God our thanksgiving in the joyful singing of carols.

As we gather together in the name of Christ, we pray for the world he came to save:

For the Church, that it may be enabled in our generation to surrender anew to God's holy Wisdom, and bear the good news of God's love to a needy world;

For the world, which is already Christ's, that all its peoples may recognise their responsibility for its future, and may be inspired by the message of Christmas to work together for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace everywhere;

For all in special need, the sick, the anxious, the lonely, the fearful, and the bereaved, that the peace and light of the Christ child may bring hope and healing to all who sit in darkness.

We commend all whom we love, or who have asked for our prayers, to the unfailing mercy of our heavenly Father, and say together, as Christ himself taught us:

[*Promise p149\**]

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

**3**

My brothers and sisters: In the name of Christ I welcome you. We have come together as Christmas draws near to prepare for our celebration of the birth of God's beloved Son. Through the days of Advent we have followed the light of Christ, and now we travel in spirit with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem to acclaim with the multitude of the heavenly host the coming of the Prince of Peace. Through scripture and silence, prayer and song, let us hear again the wonderful story of our redemption, and, hearing, let us rejoice and respond with lively faith.

*All pray in silence for a while.*

Almighty God,  
you make us glad with the yearly remembrance  
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ:  
grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer,  
we may with sure confidence behold him  
when he shall come to be our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[*CW p379*]

*The service should conclude with an acclamation or blessing from the seasonal material.*

**Patterns of Readings**

***Sequence 1: Good News for the Poor (Lukan)***

*[Promise p26]*

*These readings are also suitable on Christmas Eve.*

1	Micah 5.2-4 Psalm 89.1-4	Bethlehem, from you shall come forth a ruler.
2	Isaiah 35 Psalm 126	The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.
3	Haggai 2.5b-9 <i>or</i> Jeremiah 22.13-16; 23.5-6 Psalm 96.7-12	I will fill this house with splendour. Your Father judged the cause of the poor.
4	Isaiah 11.1-9 Psalm 132.10-16	There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse.
5	Isaiah 52.7-10 <i>or</i> Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.8-13	How beautiful on the mountains A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.
6	Philippians 2.5-11	He took the form of a servant.
Canticle	29	Magnificat (The Song of Mary)
Gospel Reading	In Advent Luke 1.26-38	The Annunciation
	At Christmas Luke 2.1-20	The Birth of Jesus

***Sequence 2: The Gospel of Luke***

*[Promise p27]*

*In Christmastide Readings 1 and 4 might be omitted. This pattern of readings might also be used before Christmas, when Readings 6 and 7 (and possibly 5) might be omitted. But there is virtue in reading the whole infancy narrative with hymns, songs and canticles interspersed.*

1	Luke 1.5-25	The Annunciation to Zechariah
2	Luke 1.26-38	The Annunciation to Mary
3	Luke 1.39-56	The Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

*or 39-49 if the Magnificat is  
used as a Cantic*

4 Luke 1.57-80 The Birth of John  
*or 57-67 if the Benedictus is  
used as a Cantic*

5 Luke 2.1-7 The Birth of Jesus

6 Luke 2.8-20 The Shepherds

7 Luke 2.22-40 The Presentation in the Temple  
*or 22-28 if the Nunc Dimittis  
is used as a Cantic*

Cantic Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)  
Cantic Magnificat (The Song of Mary)  
Cantic Nunc Dimittis (The Song of Simeon)

Final Titus 2.11-14;  
Reading 3.3-7

1  
2 ***Sequence 3: Christmas Eve***  
3 ***Pattern from King's College, Cambridge***

[*Promise p28*]

5 *This pattern is traditionally introduced by the Bidding Prayer on page 59.*

6

1 Genesis 3.8-14 The Fall

2 Genesis 22.1-19 The Promise to Abraham  
*or 22.15-18*

3 Isaiah 9.2, 6-7 The Prophecy of the Messiah's Birth

4 Isaiah 11.1-9 The Prophecy of the Messiah's Kingdom of Peace  
*or Micah 5.2-4* The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem

5 Luke 1.26-38 The Annunciation to Mary  
*or Isaiah 60.1-6, 19* The Coming of the Glory of the Lord

6 Matthew 1.18-23 The Birth of Emmanuel  
*or Luke 2.1-7* The Birth of Jesus

7 Luke 2.8-16 The Shepherds go to the Manger

8 Matthew 2.1-11 The Magi are led by the star to Jesus

9 John 1.1-14 The Incarnation of the Word of God

## Christingle Services and Crib Services

*Two service outlines are provided here (for a Christingle Service and a Crib Service), followed by a resource section. These outlines suggest, rather than prescribe, a pattern. Care will be needed to adapt the outlines to local custom and context, taking into account the range of ages and Christian experience of those present.*

*Whatever structure and shape is adopted, the telling of the story should lead to praise and thanksgiving, and be concluded by prayer. In any of the acts of thanksgiving, the lighting of one prominently placed large single candle, or a Christingle, or the candles of the Advent wreath, may provide a helpful focus.*

### An Outline for a Christingle Service

- Greeting
- Lighting of a Candle
- Thanksgiving
- Ministry of the Word
  - Reading
  - Talk or Address
- Offering of Gifts
- Prayers
- Lord's Prayer
- Lighting/Presentation of Christingles
- Ending/Blessing

### An Outline for a Crib Service

- Greeting
- Lighting of Candle
- Penitential Section
- Collect
- Ministry of the Word
  - Reading
  - Building up of Crib while telling the story
  - Talk or Address
- Thanksgiving
- Prayers
- Lord's Prayer
- Ending/Blessing



*Resource Material*

**Greeting/Introduction/Acclamation**

Christ has brought us out of darkness:  
**to live in his marvellous light.**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome to ... today. We have come together in the presence of God our Father to rejoice in the gift of Jesus to us as the light of the world, to hear and receive the story and message of the coming of Christ, and to offer to God our thanksgiving in prayer and song.

*[Promise p155]*

*or*

Today we remember Jesus and the story of his birth:  
**Jesus is our King.**

*As a candle is lit.*

Jesus Christ is the light of the world;  
**Jesus is our Way.**

With Jesus even dark places are light;  
**Jesus is the Truth.**

In Jesus we shall live for ever:  
**Jesus is our Life.**

*[New Patterns A28]*

*or*

We meet to celebrate the coming of Christ into the world.

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us  
**and we beheld his glory.**

*[New Patterns A29]*

*or*

I bring you good news of great joy:  
**a Saviour has been born to you. Alleluia.**  
Unto us a child is born,  
**unto us a Son is given. Alleluia.**

*[New Patterns A30]*

[Hear the words of St Luke:

When the angels had gone from them into heaven,  
the shepherds said to one another,  
'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened  
which the Lord has made known to us'.  
So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the baby lying in a manger.]

He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.  
**We worship and adore him. Alleluia.**

*or*

1 The glory of the Lord has been revealed  
2 **and all flesh shall see it together.**

3  
4 *As a candle is lit.*

5 Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
6 **a light no darkness can quench.**

7  
8 The shepherds kept watch by night,  
9 **and your glory shone round about them.**

10  
11 The darkness is not dark to you,  
12 **the night is as bright as the day.**

13  
14 Let your light scatter the darkness  
15 **and fill your Church with your glory.**

[New Patterns A18\*]

16  
17  
18 *or*

19 Holy Jesus,  
20 by being born one of us,  
21 and lying humbly in a manger,  
22 you show us how much God loves the world.  
23 Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,  
24 until we reach our home in heaven,  
25 and see you on your throne of glory. **Amen.**

26  
27  
28 **Invitation to Confession**

29  
30 Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness  
31 of our hearts,  
32 In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

[New Patterns P8]

33  
34 *or*

35 As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child,  
36 we open our hearts in penitence and faith:

[New Patterns P10]

37  
38  
39 **Prayers of Penitence**

40  
41  
42 You were born for our salvation.  
43 Lord, have mercy.  
44 **Lord, have mercy.**

45  
46 You came as Saviour to bring wholeness and peace.  
47 Christ, have mercy.  
48 **Christ, have mercy.**

1 You come to bring light into the darkness of our lives.  
2 Lord, have mercy.  
3 **Christ, have mercy.**

4  
5 *A prayer for use with small children*  
6 Father God,  
7 we are sorry  
8 for the things we do and say and think  
9 which make you sad,  
10 and for not thinking of others  
11 before ourselves.  
12 Please forgive us,  
13 and help us to love you and other people  
14 more and more. **Amen.**

**Absolutions**

15  
16  
17  
18 May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
19 draw *us* to himself,  
20 and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins  
21 that *we* may behold the glory of his Son,  
22 the Word made flesh,  
23 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p 135]

24  
25 *or*  
26 May God who loved the world so much  
27 that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
28 forgive *us our* sins  
29 and make *us* holy to serve him in the world,  
30 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p136]

**Thanksgivings**

31  
32  
33  
34  
35 *One prominently placed Christingle, or a large candle, or the candles of the Advent wreath, may be*  
36 *lit.*

37  
38 Glory to Christ, Son of Mary;  
39 born a child,  
40 you are one with us:  
41 **Glory to God in the highest.**

42  
43 Glory to Christ, Son of David;  
44 born to rule,  
45 you reign in our hearts:  
46 **Glory to God in the highest.**

47  
48 Glory to Christ, Son of Man;  
49 born to save,  
50 you are the light of the world:  
51 **Glory to God in the highest.**

[New Patterns G71]

1 *or*  
2 Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise  
3 for Jesus Christ our Lord:  
4 for he was the Word before all creation.  
5 Through him all things come to be,  
6 not one thing has its being but through him.  
7  
8 Jesus, light of the world,  
9 **we worship and adore you.**  
10  
11 His life is the light that shines in the dark,  
12 a light that darkness cannot overpower.  
13  
14 Jesus, light of the world,  
15 **we worship and adore you.**  
16  
17 The Word was the true light coming into the world.  
18 He was in the world  
19 that had its being through him,  
20 and the world did not know him.  
21  
22 Jesus, light of the world,  
23 **we worship and adore you.**  
24  
25 He came to his own, and they did not accept him.  
26 But to all who accept him  
27 he gives power to become children of God.  
28  
29 Jesus, light of the world,  
30 **we worship and adore you.**  
31  
32 The Word was made flesh and lived among us,  
33 and we have seen his glory,  
34 as the only Son of the Father,  
35 full of grace and truth.  
36  
37 Jesus, light of the world,  
38 **we worship and adore you.**  
39  
40 To God our creator,  
41 born as one of us,  
42 be all praise and glory.  
43 With all the company of heaven, we worship, saying:  
44 **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,**  
45 **who was, and is, and is to come:**  
46 **to him be glory and honour for ever and ever. Amen.**  
47  
48

[Promise p156-7]

1 *or*  
2 Blessed are you, God of all glory,  
3 through your Son the Christ.  
4 His name is Jesus  
5 **because he saves his people from their sin.**  
6  
7 He will be called Emmanuel:  
8 **God is with us.**  
9  
10 Let us praise the Lord, the God of Israel:  
11 **he has come to his people and set them free.**  
12  
13 He gave up the glory of heaven  
14 **and took the form of a servant.**  
15  
16 The Word was made flesh  
17 **and we beheld his glory.**  
18  
19 In humility he walked the path of obedience  
20 **to die on the cross.**  
21  
22 God raised him to the highest place above  
23 and gave him the name above every name:  
24 **Jesus Christ is Lord.**  
25  
26 So all beings in heaven and earth will fall at his feet,  
27 and proclaim to the glory of God  
28 **Jesus Christ is Lord.**  
29  
30  
31 Today (*This night/day*) Christ is born:  
32 **Alleluia.**  
33  
34 Today (*This night/day*) the Saviour comes:  
35 **Alleluia.**  
36  
37 Today (*This night/day*) the angels sing on earth:  
38 **Alleluia. Glory to God in the Highest.**  
39  
40  
41  
42 *or*  
43 Blessed are you, God our Father,  
44 through your Son the Christ.  
45 His name is Jesus.  
46 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**  
47  
48 Jesus came and shared our life:  
49 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**  
50  
51

[*New Patterns G67\**]

[*New Patterns G30*]

1 Jesus' touch made people whole:  
2 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**

3  
4 Jesus raised the dead to life:  
5 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**

6  
7 Jesus died to set us free:  
8 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**

9  
10 Jesus rose to life again:  
11 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**

12  
13 Jesus is our King on high:  
14 **God is with us. Praise the Lord.**

[New Patterns G72]

**Before a Bible Reading**

15  
16  
17  
18  
19 God's word is a lantern to our feet:  
20 **and a light to our path.**

[Promise p158]

**Intercession**

21  
22  
23  
24  
25 Prayers from the Intercession resources on page 00-00. The last two are particularly appropriate.

26  
27 *A prayer for the Children's Society (for use at a Christingle service)*

28 Loving Lord,  
29 we thank you for the Children's Society as it reaches out  
30 to young people experiencing pain and injustice.  
31 Guide and strengthen its work alongside children and young people  
32 who are homeless and on the streets,  
33 in prison or facing problems in the community.  
34 Grant us the wisdom to listen to the voices of the young  
35 and to recognise their gifts and insights.  
36 Help us to work with them to create a fair and just society  
37 where all may know the fullness of your love,  
38 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[written by the Revd David Rhodes of The Children's Society]

**Affirmation of faith**

39  
40  
41  
42  
43 Let us declare our faith in God:  
44 **We believe in God the Father,**  
45 **from whom every family**  
46 **in heaven and on earth is named.**

47  
48 **We believe in God the Son,**  
49 **who lives in our hearts through faith,**  
50 **and fills us with his love.**  
51 **We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**

1 **who strengthens us**  
2 **with power from on high.**  
3  
4 **We believe in one God:**  
5 **Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

[CW p148]

**Endings and Blessings**

9 Father of all,  
10 you have given us your Son to be the  
11 Saviour of the World.  
12 Welcome us your Children into your kingdom  
13 to enjoy your presence for ever. **Amen.**

[New Patterns J14]

15 *or*  
16 God sent his angels from glory to bring to shepherds  
17 the good news of Jesus' birth.  
18 **Amen. We thank you Lord.**

20 You have heard his story,  
21 the story of God's own Son.  
22 **Amen. We thank you Lord.**

24 May he fill you with joy  
25 to bring this good news to others today.  
26 **Amen. We thank you Lord.**

[New Patterns J75\*]

29 *or*  
30 The Lord bless *you* and watch over *you*,  
31 the Lord make his face shine upon *you*  
32 and be gracious to *you*,  
33 the Lord look kindly on *you*  
34 and give you peace;  
35 and the blessing.....

[New Patterns J62]

38 *or*  
39 May God the Father keep you in all your days.  
40  
41 May God the Son shield you in all your ways.  
42  
43 May God the Spirit bring you healing and peace.  
44  
45 May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you  
46 and pour upon you blessing and light. **Amen.**

[New Patterns J68]

48 *For other endings and blessings, see pages 00-00.*

**Additional Prayers for use at Christmastide**

**Blessings of the Crib**

*A form for the dedication of the Crib at the Eucharist is given at p00.  
On other occasions one of the following may be used.*

A hallowed day has dawned upon us.  
Come and worship the Lord:  
**for a great light has shone on the earth.**

Hear the words of the book of Wisdom:  
When peaceful silence lay over all and night was in the  
midst of her swift course, from your royal throne, O God,  
down from the heavens, leapt your almighty Word.

Hear the words of Saint John:  
God's love for us was revealed when God sent his only Son  
into the world so that we could have life through him,  
**Thanks be to God.**

*[Promise p192]*

Let us pray  
that God our Father will bless this crib,  
and that all who worship his Son,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
may come to share his life in glory.

God our Father,  
on this *night/day* your Son Jesus Christ  
was born of the Virgin Mary for us and for our salvation.  
Bless this crib,  
which we have prepared to celebrate that holy birth;  
may all who see it be strengthened in faith  
and receive the fullness of life he came to bring,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*[Promise p193]*

*or*  
In the faith of Christ,  
and in your name, O God most holy,  
we hallow this crib of Christmas,  
to set before the eyes of your children  
the great love and humility  
of Jesus Christ your only Son;  
who for us, and for our salvation,  
came down as at this time from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit  
of the Virgin Mary his mother,  
and was made man;



1 to whom with you and the same Spirit  
2 be all honour, majesty, glory, and worship,  
3 now and to the ages of ages. **Amen.**

[Promise p193]

4  
5 May the grace of Christ our Saviour be with us all. **Amen.**

8 **Prayers at the Crib**

9  
10 To you, O Christ, Word of the Father,  
11 we offer our lowly prayers and humble thanks;  
12 for love of our human race  
13 you most wonderfully chose to be born of Mary,  
14 and to take our nature as nevermore to lay it by;  
15 so that we might be born again by your Spirit  
16 and restored in the image of God;  
17 to whom, one blessed Trinity,  
18 be given all honour, might, majesty, and power,  
19 now and for ever. **Amen.**

[Promise p194\*]

20  
21  
22 *or*  
23 O God the Son, highest and holiest,  
24 who humbled yourself to share our birth and our death:  
25 bring us with the shepherds and the wise men  
26 to kneel before your holy cradle,  
27 that we may come to sing with your angels  
28 your glorious praises in heaven;  
29 where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign,  
30 God, world without end. **Amen.**

[Promise p195]

31  
32  
33 *or*  
34 We pray you, Lord, to purify our hearts  
35 that they may be worthy to become your dwelling-place.  
36 Let us never fail to find room for you,  
37 but come and abide in us,  
38 that we also may abide in you,  
39 for as at this time you were born into the world for us,  
40 and live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords,  
41 now and for ever. **Amen.**

[Promise p195]

42  
43  
44 *or*  
45 Lord, by the song of the angels  
46 you disclosed your birth to your own people,  
47 and by the leading of a star  
48 you revealed your glory to strangers.  
49 Teach us to know you now,  
50 and to make you known to all. **Amen.**

[Promise p195]

51

1 *or*  
2 The kings, Lord,  
3 brought myrrh, frankincense, and gold.  
4 Lord, we have nothing of our own to bring  
5 we bring you what you have given,  
6 our lives for your life. **Amen.**

[Promise p195]

**Resource Material for the Beginning of a New Year**

*For resources for the Naming and Circumcision of Jesus, see Common Worship: Festivals.*

**Invitation to Confession**

As we come to the Lord at (or near) the start of this New Year,  
let us seek his grace to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Kyrie Confession**

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh  
and splendour of the Father;

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

[Promise p233]

**Collects**

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
whose years never fail  
and whose mercies are new each returning day:  
let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives,  
warming our hearts and giving light to our minds;  
that we may pass the coming year  
in joyful obedience and firm faith;  
through him who is the beginning and the end,  
your Son Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[Promise p201]

1 *or*  
2 O God, by whose command  
3 the order of time runs its course;  
4 forgive our impatience, perfect our faith,  
5 and, while we wait for the fulfilment of your promises,  
6 grant us to have a good hope because of your word;  
7 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Promise p201]*

8  
9 *or*  
10 Eternal Lord God,  
11 we give you thanks for bringing us  
12 through the changes of time  
13 to the beginning of another year.  
14 Forgive us the wrong we have done  
15 in the year that is past,  
16 and help us to spend the rest of our days  
17 to your honour and glory;  
18 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Promise p201]*

**Gospel Acclamation**

21  
22  
23 Alleluia, alleluia.  
24 I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last,  
25 the beginning and the end.  
26 **Alleluia!**

**Intercession**

27  
28  
29  
30 [We pray for God's faithfulness to be known in our world.  
31 Faithful God  
32 **glorify your name.**]  
33  
34 In a world of change and hope,  
35 of fear and adventure,  
36 faithful God,  
37 **glorify your name.**  
38  
39 In human rebellion and obedience,  
40 in our seeking and our finding,  
41 faithful God,  
42 **glorify your name.**  
43  
44 In the common life of our society,  
45 in prosperity and need,  
46 faithful God,  
47 **glorify your name.**  
48

1 As your Church proclaims your goodness  
2 in words and action,  
3 faithful God,  
4 **glorify your name.**

5  
6 Among our friends  
7 and in our homes,  
8 faithful God,  
9 **glorify your name.**

10  
11 In our times of joy,  
12 in our days of sorrow,  
13 faithful God,  
14 **glorify your name.**

15  
16 In our strengths and triumphs,  
17 in our weakness and at our death,  
18 faithful God,  
19 **glorify your name.**

20  
21 In your saints in glory  
22 and on the day of Christ's coming,  
23 faithful God,  
24 **glorify your name.**

*[New Patterns F71]*

25  
26  
27 The Renewal of the Covenant

28  
29 God made a covenant with the people of Israel, calling them to be a holy nation, chosen to bear  
30 witness to his steadfast love by finding delight in the law.

31  
32 The covenant was renewed in Jesus Christ our Lord, in his life, work, death and resurrection. In him  
33 all people may be set free from sin and its power, and united in love and obedience.

34  
35 In this covenant God promises us new life in Christ. For our part we promise to live no longer for  
36 ourselves but for God.

37  
38 We meet, therefore, as generations have met before us, to renew the covenant which bound them  
39 and binds us to God.

40  
41 Let us then seek forgiveness for the sin by which we have denied God's claim upon us.

42  
43 Let us pray.

44  
45 God of mercy, hear us as we confess our sins.

46  
47 For the sin that has made us slow to learn from Christ,  
48 reluctant to follow him,  
49 and afraid to bear the cross:  
50 Lord, have mercy,  
51 **Lord, forgive.**

1 For the sin that has caused the poverty of our worship,  
2 the formality and selfishness of our prayers,  
3 our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace,  
4 and our hesitating witness for Christ:

5 Lord, have mercy,

6 **Lord, forgive.**

8 For the sin that has led us to misuse your gifts,  
9 evade our responsibilities,  
10 and fail to be good stewards of your creation:

11 Lord, have mercy,

12 **Lord, forgive.**

14 For the sin that has made us unwilling to overcome evil with good,  
15 tolerant of injustice,  
16 quick to condemn,  
17 and selfish in sharing your love with others:

18 Lord, have mercy,

19 **Lord, forgive.**

21 Silence

23 **Have mercy on me, O God,**  
24 **in your great goodness;**  
25 **according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences.**  
26 **Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness,**  
27 **and cleanse me from my sin.**  
28 **Make in me a clean heart, O God,**  
29 **and renew a right spirit within me.**  
30 **Give me again the joy of your salvation**  
31 **and sustain me with your gracious spirit.**

[Psalm 51.1-2, 11, 13]

34 *The presiding minister says*

36 If we confess our sins,  
37 God is faithful and just,  
38 and will forgive our sins,  
39 and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

41 May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
42 draw *us* to himself,  
43 and cleanse *us* from all our sins  
44 that *we* may behold the glory of his Son,  
45 the Word made flesh,  
46 Jesus Christ our Lord.

47 **Amen.**

[New Patterns B79]

1 The people remain standing and the presiding minister says  
2  
3 Beloved in Christ,  
4 Let us again claim for ourselves  
5 this covenant which God has made with his people,  
6 and take upon us the yoke of Christ.  
7 This means that we are content  
8 that he appoint us our place and work,  
9 and that he himself be our reward.  
10  
11 Christ has many services to be done:  
12 some are easy, others are difficult;  
13 some bring honour, others bring reproach;  
14 some are suitable to our natural inclinations and material interests,  
15 others are contrary to both;  
16 in some we may please Christ and please ourselves;  
17 in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.  
18 Yet the power to do all these things is given to us in Christ,  
19 who strengthens us.  
20  
21 Therefore let us make this covenant of God our own.  
22 Let us give ourselves to him,  
23 trusting in his promises and relying on his grace.  
24  
25 Lord God, holy Father,  
26 since you have called us through Christ  
27 to share in this gracious covenant,  
28 we take upon ourselves with joy the yoke of obedience  
29 and, for love of you,  
30 engage ourselves to seek and do your perfect will.  
31 We are no longer our own but yours.  
32  
33 **I am no longer my own but yours.**  
34 **Put me to what you will,**  
35 **rank me with whom you will;**  
36 **put me to doing,**  
37 **put me to suffering;**  
38 **let me be employed for you**  
39 **or laid aside for you,**  
40 **exalted for you**  
41 **or brought low for you;**  
42 **let me be full,**  
43 **let me be empty,**  
44 **let me have all things,**  
45 **let me have nothing;**  
46 **I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things**  
47 **To your pleasure and disposal.**

1 **And now, glorious and blessed God,**  
2 **Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**  
3 **you are mine and I am yours.**  
4 **So be it.**  
5 **And the covenant now made on earth,**  
6 **let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**  
7

8 Silence, all seated  
9

10 As we have entered this covenant not for ourselves alone, but as God's servants and witnesses, let  
11 us pray for the Church and for the world.  
12

13 Loving God, hear us as we pray for your holy catholic Church:  
14 **make us all one, that the world may believe.**  
15

16 Inspire and lead all who govern and hold authority in the  
17 nations of the world:  
18 **establish justice and peace among all people.**  
19

20 Have compassion on all who suffer from any sickness,  
21 grief or trouble:  
22 **deliver them from their distress.**  
23

24 We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory:  
25 **bring us all to share in your heavenly kingdom.**  
26

27 Silence  
28

29 Lord our God,  
30 you have helped us by your grace,  
31 to make these prayers,  
32 and you have promised through Christ our Lord  
33 that when two or three agree in his name  
34 you will grant what they ask.  
35 Answer now your servants' prayers  
36 according to their needs;  
37 in this world grant that we may truly know you,  
38 and in the world to come  
39 graciously give us eternal life;  
40 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
41 **Amen.**

42 *[MWB pp285-291: sections 12, 13, 15B, 16, 17]*  
43  
44

## 45 **Introduction to the Peace**

46  
47 Blessed are the peacemakers:  
48 they shall be called children of God.  
49 We meet in the name of Christ and Share his peace.

[CW p293 no.4]

**Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Blessed be God,  
By whose grace creation is renewed,  
By whose love heaven is opened,  
By whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

[CW page 293 no.9]

**Preface**

And now we give you thanks  
because you have redeemed our time  
and have given us this year of grace to proclaim your favour  
and celebrate your steadfast love.

**Blessings and Endings**

Jesus, Lord of Time,  
**hold us in your eternity.**

Jesus, Image of God,  
**travel with us the life of faith.**

Jesus, Friend of Sinners,  
**heal the brokenness of our world.**

Jesus, Lord of Tomorrow,  
**draw us into your future. Amen.**

[New Patterns J8]

*or*

The Lord bless you and watch over you,  
the Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look kindly on you  
and give you peace;  
and the blessing ...

[New Patterns J62]

*or*

May God the Father keep you in all your days.

May God the Son shield you in all your ways.

May God the Spirit bring you healing and peace.

May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you



1 and pour upon you blessing and light. **Amen.**

[New Patterns J68]

2

3 *or*

4 *To be said facing the open doors:*

5 To a troubled world

6 **peace from Christ.**

7

8 To a searching world

9 **love from Christ.**

10

11 To a waiting world

12 **hope from Christ.**

13

[New Patterns J33]

14

15

16

17

### Acclamation

18

19 A thousand years in God's sight are like a single day.

20 **Like an evening that has already gone.**

21

22 Christ is the first and the last,

23 **the beginning and the end.**

24

25 Jesus stands at the door and knocks:

26 **Lord Jesus, enter our homes and our lives.**

27

28 You hold the key to God's way of justice.

29 **Open to us your kingdom of peace.**

30

31

32

33

34 You crown the year with your goodness.

*Psalms 65.11*

35

36

37 The Lord knows the path I take:

38 when he has tried me I shall come forth as gold.

*Job 23.10*

39

40

41 Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness

42 and all these things will be yours as well.

*Matthew 6.33*

43

44

45 Do not worry about tomorrow:

46 tomorrow will take care of itself.

47 Each day has trouble enough of its own.

*Matthew 6.34*

48

49

50 I am the Alpha and the Omega.

51 The first and the last, the beginning and the end.

*Revelations 22.13*

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51

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

*Luke 4.18-19*

# 1 **Epiphany Season**

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44

44    The Eucharist on the Feast of the Epiphany

45    The Eucharist on the Festival of the Baptism of Christ

46    A Service for the Festival of the Baptism of Christ

47    The Eucharist on the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple

## 1 Introduction to the Season

2  
3 In the western churches, the Epiphany (‘manifestation’) became an occasion to celebrate one  
4 element in the story of Christ’s birth, the visit of the far-travelled magi, understood as the  
5 manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Matthew’s account speaks simply of “wise men from the  
6 east”; later tradition fixed their number at three, made them kings, and recalled their resonant names  
7 – Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. In this perspective, Epiphanytide is an apt season to pray for the  
8 worldwide mission of the Church. The feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle to the  
9 Gentiles, appropriately falls in the Epiphany season, as does the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.  
10 In the eastern churches, the Epiphany is, rather, the celebration of Christ’s baptism at the hands of  
11 John, when the heavens were opened, and a voice from heaven declared Jesus to be God’s beloved  
12 son. The miracle of Cana in Galilee, where Jesus “first manifested his glory”, follows immediately:

13  
14 Manifest at Jordan’s stream,  
15 Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
16 And at Cana wedding-guest  
17 In thy Godhead manifest

*(Christopher Wordsworth)*

18  
19 The arrangement of the first Sundays of Epiphany in the Revised Common Lectionary deliberately  
20 draws out these aspects.

21  
22 The season of joyful celebration which begins at Christmas now continues through the successive  
23 Sundays of Epiphany, and the festal cycle ends only with the Feast of the Presentation, or  
24 Candlemas. The child who has been manifested to the Magi at his birth is now recognised by  
25 Simeon and Anna, when he comes to be presented in the Temple according to the Law of Israel. He  
26 is both “a light to lighten the Gentiles,” and “the glory of God’s people Israel.” But the redemption  
27 he will bring must be won through suffering; the Incarnation is directed to the Passion; and  
28 Simeon’s final words move our attention away from the celebration of Christmas and towards the  
29 mysteries of Easter.

**Seasonal Material**

**Invitations to Confession**

*Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*

The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.

[CW p304]

*Baptism of Christ*

Because God was merciful,  
he saved us through the water of rebirth,  
and the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.  
But through sin we have fallen away from our baptism.  
Let us return to the Lord and renew our faith in his promises  
by confessing our sins in penitence.

Titus 3.5 [Enriching p184]

*or*

By the mercies of God,  
let us confess our sins and present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him,  
which is our spiritual worship.

Romans 12.1

**Kyrie Confessions**

*Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*

God be gracious to us and bless us,  
and make your face shine upon us:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth,  
your saving power among the nations:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,  
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

[New Patterns B66]

*or*

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

1 Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
2 Christ, have mercy.  
3 **Christ, have mercy.**

4  
5 Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh  
6 and splendour of the Father:  
7 Lord, have mercy.  
8 **Lord, have mercy.**

[Promise p233]

9  
10  
11 *or*  
12 You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
13 Lord, have mercy.  
14 **Lord, have mercy.**

15  
16 You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:  
17 Christ, have mercy.  
18 **Christ, have mercy.**

19  
20 You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:  
21 Lord, have mercy.  
22 **Lord, have mercy.**

[CW p133]

23  
24  
25 *or*  
26 Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts.  
27 Lord, have mercy.  
28 **Lord, have mercy.**

29  
30 Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love.  
31 Christ have mercy.  
32 **Christ have mercy.**

33  
34 Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word.  
35 Lord, have mercy.  
36 **Lord, have mercy.**

Luke 2

**Gospel Acclamations**

37  
38  
39  
40 *Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*  
41 Alleluia, alleluia.  
42 Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations  
43 and believed in throughout the world.  
44 **Alleluia.**

[CW p304]

45  
46 *or*  
47 Alleluia, alleluia.  
48 We have seen his star at its rising,  
49 and have come to pay him homage  
50 **Alleluia.**

[Matt 2.2]

51

*Baptism of Christ*

Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

**Alleluia.**

[Matt 3.17]

*Presentation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

This child is the light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.

**Alleluia.**

[CW p306]

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Our eyes have seen your salvation.

A light to enlighten the nations

and the glory of your people Israel.

**Alleluia.**

cf Luke 2.30, 32

**Intercessions**

*Epiphany*

Let us worship the Saviour with joy  
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The Magi came from the east to worship your Son:

Father, grant to Christians everywhere

the spirit of adoration ...

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:

Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds

[at the beginning of this year] ...

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become

the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ:

Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world ...

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:

Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,

and all who suffer ...

Lord of glory,

**hear our prayer.**

1 Your Son shared the life of his home and family  
2 at Nazareth:  
3 Father, protect in your love our neighbours,  
4 our families and this community of which we are a part ...  
5 Lord of glory,  
6 **hear our prayer.**

7  
8 Father, we rejoice in our fellowship  
9 with the shepherds, the angels, the Magi,  
10 the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph  
11 and all the faithful departed.  
12 In your unfailing love for us and for all people  
13 hear and answer our prayers through your Son,  
14 our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[New Patterns F68\*]

15  
16  
17 *or*  
18 We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

19  
20 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
21 **in your mercy hear us.**

22  
23 You have called us into the family  
24 of those who are the children of God.  
25 May our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ  
26 be strengthened by your grace.  
27 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
28 **in your mercy hear us.**

29  
30 You have called us to be a temple  
31 where the Holy Spirit can dwell.  
32 Give us clean hands and pure hearts  
33 so that our lives will reflect your holiness.  
34 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
35 **in your mercy hear us.**

36  
37 You have called us to be a light to the world  
38 so that those in darkness come to you.  
39 May our lives shine as a witness  
40 to the saving grace you have given for all.  
41 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
42 **in your mercy hear us.**

43  
44 You have called us to be members of your body,  
45 so when one suffers all suffer together.  
46 We ask for your comfort and healing power  
47 to bring hope to those in distress.  
48 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
49 **in your mercy hear us.**

50  
51



1 You have called us to be the Bride  
2 where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom.  
3 Prepare us for the wedding feast  
4 where we will be united with you for ever.  
5 Jesus, Lord of the Church  
6 **in your mercy hear us.**  
7  
8 Jesus, Lord of the Church,  
9 you have called us into fellowship with all your saints.  
10 We unite our prayers with theirs  
11 and ask for grace to serve you with joy  
12 where you live and reign with Father and the Holy Spirit,  
13 one God, now and for all eternity. **Amen.**

[New Patterns F65\*]

14  
15  
16 *or*  
17 We pray for the coming of God's kingdom.  
18 Father, by your Spirit  
19 **bring in your kingdom.**  
20  
21 You sent your son to bring good news to the poor,  
22 sight to the blind, freedom to the captives,  
23 and salvation to your people:  
24 anoint us with your Spirit;  
25 rouse us to work in his name.  
26 Father, by your Spirit  
27 **bring in your kingdom.**  
28  
29 Send us to bring help to the poor  
30 and freedom to the oppressed.  
31 Father, by your Spirit  
32 **bring in your kingdom.**  
33  
34 Send us to tell the world  
35 the good news of your healing love.  
36 Father, by your Spirit  
37 **bring in your kingdom.**  
38  
39 Send us to those who mourn,  
40 to bring joy and gladness instead of grief.  
41 Father, by your Spirit  
42 **bring in your kingdom.**  
43  
44 Send us to proclaim that the time is here  
45 for you to save your people.  
46 Father, by your Spirit  
47 **bring in your kingdom.**  
48

1 Father, use us, unworthy as we are,  
2 to bring in your kingdom of mercy, justice, love and peace.  
3 Empower us by your Spirit and unite us in your Son  
4 that all our joy and delight may be to serve you,  
5 now and for ever. **Amen.**

[New Patterns F72\*]

8 *Baptism of Christ*

9 Jesus calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
10 Washed clean by the waters of baptism,  
11 let us pray that we may live the life to which he has called us.

12  
13 Lord Jesus, eternal Word,  
14 proclaimed as the Christ by John the forerunner,  
15 hear us as we pray for all who proclaim your word ...  
16 Lord of truth,  
17 **hear our prayer.**

18  
19 Lord Jesus, baptizing with the Spirit and with fire,  
20 strengthen us to withstand all the trials of our faith ...  
21 Lord of truth,  
22 **hear our prayer.**

23  
24 Lord Jesus, bringing forgiveness to all who repent,  
25 teach your Church dependence on your grace ...  
26 Lord of truth,  
27 **hear our prayer.**

28  
29 Lord Jesus, fulfilment of the promises of old,  
30 give hope to all who suffer or are ignored ...  
31 Lord of truth,  
32 **hear our prayer.**

33  
34 Lord Jesus, beloved Son of the Father,  
35 anoint us with the gifts of your Holy Spirit ...  
36 Lord of truth,  
37 **hear our prayer.**

38  
39 Lord Jesus, bringer of hope,  
40 share with all the faithful the riches of eternal life ...  
41 Lord of truth,  
42 **hear our prayer.**

43  
44 Lord Jesus Christ,  
45 in you the Father makes us and all things new.  
46 Transform the poverty of our nature  
47 by the riches of your grace,  
48 and in the renewal of our lives  
49 make known your heavenly glory. **Amen.**  
50

1 *Presentation*

2 Let us pray to the Father through Christ our light and life.

4 Father,

5 your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:

6 look in mercy on your Church, sharing its light ...

7 Lord, have mercy.

8 **Lord, have mercy.**

10 [Father,]

11 your Christ in the temple brings judgement on the world:

12 look in mercy on the nations who long for his justice ...

13 Lord, have mercy.

14 **Lord, have mercy.**

16 [Father,]

17 your Christ who was rich for our sake became poor:

18 look in mercy on all who are in need

19 and those who suffer with him ...

20 Lord, have mercy.

21 **Lord, have mercy.**

23 [Father,]

24 your Christ is the one in whom

25 faithful servants find their peace:

26 look in mercy on the whole Church

27 which glories in your salvation ...

28 Lord, have mercy.

29 **Lord, have mercy.**

31 [Father,]

32 your Christ is the one destined for rejection:

33 look in mercy on us as we turn towards his passion.

34 Lord, have mercy.

35 **Lord, have mercy.**

37 Almighty Father,

38 you kept faith with Simeon and Anna,

39 and showed them the infant King.

40 Give us grace to trust your promises

41 and patience to wait for their fulfilment;

42 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

43 [Promise p275\*]

45 **Introductions to the Peace**

47 *Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*

48 Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.

49 Of the increase of his government and of peace

50 there shall be no end.

51 [CW p304]

1 *or*  
2 Christ is our peace.  
3 If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.  
4 The old has passed away: behold everything has become new. *2 Cor 5.17 [Promise p237]*

5  
6 *Baptism of Christ*  
7 We are the body of Christ.  
8 In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
9 Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
10 and builds up our common life.  
11 *[CW p290]*

12 *or*  
13 God has made us one in Christ.  
14 He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
15 has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia *cf 2 Cor 1.22 [CW p320]*

16  
17 *Presentation*  
18 In the tender mercy of our God  
19 the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,  
20 to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
21 and in the shadow of death  
22 and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
23 *[CW p306]*

24  
25 *or*  
26 We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
27 a holy nation, God's own people,  
28 that we may proclaim the mighty acts of him  
29 who called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
30 Gathered as his people we share his peace.  
31 *1 Peter 2.9*

32  
33 **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

34  
35 *Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*  
36 Gracious God,  
37 accept the offering of your Church,  
38 the hearts of your people  
39 joined in praise and thanksgiving,  
40 in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.  
41 *[BAS (Canada)]*

42  
43 *or*  
44 Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
45 not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
46 but hearts and voices raised in praise  
47 of Jesus Christ our light and our salvation.  
48

1 *Baptism of Christ*

2 Open the heavens, Holy Spirit,  
3 for us to see Jesus Interceding for us;  
4 may we be willing to share his Baptism,  
5 ready to share his cup and strengthened to serve him for ever. **Amen.**

[New Zealand Prayer Book]

8 *Presentation*

9 Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
10 accept the offering of your Church  
11 and grant that Christ may shine in us  
12 to the praise and glory of your name.

14 **Prefaces**

15 *Epiphany*

16 And now we give you thanks  
17 because, in the incarnation of the Word,  
18 a new light has dawned upon the world,  
19 that all the nations may be brought out of darkness  
20 to see the radiance of your glory.

[CW p304]

23 *or*

24 And now we give you thanks  
25 for by the leading of a star  
26 you have revealed your only Son to the world,  
27 that in following him  
28 we are led from darkness into his marvellous light.

30 *or*

31 And now we give you thanks  
32 because in the wonder of the incarnation  
33 your eternal Word has brought to the eyes of faith  
34 a new and radiant vision of your glory.  
35 In him we see our God made visible  
36 and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see.

[New Patterns G104]

39 *or*

40 And now we give you thanks  
41 because, in the mystery of the Word made flesh,  
42 you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts  
43 to give the knowledge of your glory  
44 in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Promise p238]

47 *or*

48 And now we give you thanks  
49 because you have revealed your eternal plan of salvation,  
50 and have shown your Son Jesus Christ  
51 to be the light to the nations.

1 *Baptism of Christ*

2 And now we give you thanks  
3 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
4 whose willing submission to the way of righteousness  
5 is the pattern of our calling  
6 to be his people and live in his way.

7  
8 *or*

9 And now we give you thanks  
10 because by water and the Holy Spirit  
11 you have made us a holy people  
12 in Jesus Christ our Lord;  
13 you renew that mystery in bread and wine  
14 to show forth your glory in all the world.

15 [Promise p238]  
16

17 *Presentation*

18 And now we give you thanks  
19 because, by appearing in the temple,  
20 he comes near to us in judgement;  
21 the Word made flesh searches the hearts of all your people  
22 and brings to light the brightness of your splendour.

23 [CW p306]  
24

25 *or*

26 And now we give you thanks  
27 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
28 who shares your eternal splendour  
29 and was presented in the Temple.  
30 He was revealed by the Spirit as the glory of Israel,  
31 that all peoples might find him  
32 the light of the world.

33  
34 *or*

35 And now we give you thanks  
36 because your eternal Word took our nature upon him  
37 in the womb of Mary the Virgin.  
38 The sword of sorrow pierced her heart  
39 when he was lifted high on the Cross,  
40 and by his sacrifice made our peace with you.

41 [Promise p278]  
42

43 **Extended Prefaces**  
44

45 *Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*

46 All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
47 mighty creator, ever-living God,  
48 through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
49 for at this time we celebrate your glory  
50 made present in our midst.  
51 In the coming of the Magi

1 the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.  
2 In the waters of baptism  
3 Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
4 the Saviour sent to redeem us.  
5 In the water made wine  
6 the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.  
7 Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.  
8 Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
9 we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
10 and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

[CW p305]

11  
12  
13 *Baptism of Christ*  
14 It is truly right and just,  
15 our duty and our salvation,  
16 always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
17 holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
18 You celebrated your new gift of Baptism  
19 in signs and wonders at the Jordan.  
20 Your voice was heard from heaven  
21 to awaken faith in the presence among us  
22 of your Word made flesh.  
23 Your Spirit was seen as a dove,  
24 revealing Jesus as your servant,  
25 and anointing him with the oil of gladness  
26 to preach the good news to the poor.  
27 Therefore as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,  
28 we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven  
29 for ever praising you and saying:

[Promise p231\*]

30  
31  
32 *Presentation of Christ in the Temple*  
33 It is indeed right and good,  
34 always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
35 through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.  
36 For on this day he appeared in the temple  
37 in substance of our flesh  
38 to come near to us in judgement.  
39 He searches the hearts of all your people  
40 and brings to light the image of your splendour.  
41 Your servant Simeon acclaimed him  
42 as the light to lighten the nations  
43 while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption.  
44 Destined for the falling and rising of many,  
45 he was lifted high upon the cross  
46 and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart  
47 when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.  
48 And now we rejoice and glorify your name

1 that we, too, have seen your salvation  
2 and join with angels and archangels  
3 in their unending hymn of praise:

[CW p307]

**Blessings**

8 *Epiphany to Eve of Presentation*

9 Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory  
10 and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;  
11 and the blessing ...

[CW p305]

14 *or*

15 Christ our Lord,  
16 to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,  
17 reveal to you his glory  
18 and pour upon you the riches of his grace;  
19 and the blessing ...

[CW:President's p574]

22 *or*

23 May God the Father,  
24 who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
25 to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
26 lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

27 **Amen.**

29 May God the Son,  
30 who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
31 transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

32 **Amen.**

34 May God the Holy Spirit,  
35 who came upon the beloved Son  
36 at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
37 pour out his gifts on you  
38 who have come to the waters of new birth.

39 **Amen.**

41 And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p574]

44 *or*

45 May God the Father,  
46 who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
47 to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
48 lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

49 **Amen.**



1 May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,  
2 give us a place with the saints in light  
3 in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

4 **Amen.**

6 May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ  
7 shine in your hearts and fill your lives  
8 with his joy and peace.

9 **Amen.**

11 And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p575]

15 *Baptism of Christ*

16 May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water  
17 welling up to eternal life,  
18 perfect in you the image of his glory;  
19 and the blessing ...

[New Patterns J58]

22 *Presentation*

23 Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus who was wounded for our sins,  
24 that you may bear in your life the love and joy and peace  
25 which are the marks of Jesus in his disciples;  
26 and the blessing ...

[From CMS and Welsh rites]

29 *or*

30 Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
31 fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
32 and the blessing ...

[CW p307]

**Short Passages of Scripture**

37 Arise, shine, Jerusalem, for your light has come,  
38 and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*Isaiah 60.1*

41 From the rising of the sun to its setting  
42 my name is great among the nations, says the Lord.

*Malachi 1.11*

45 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute;  
46 the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.  
47 All kings shall fall down before him;  
48 all nations shall do him service.

*Psalms 72.10,11*

1 The Lord declares, I will make you a light to the nations  
2 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.

*Isaiah 49.6*

5 The Lord will be your everlasting light  
6 and your God will be your glory.

*Isaiah 60.19*

9 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

*Isaiah 12.3*

12 A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Matthew 3.17*

15 We have beheld his glory, the only Son of the Father,  
16 full of grace and truth.

*John 1.14*

19 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel  
20 for he has come to his people and set them free.

*Luke 1.68*

**Seasonal Material connected with Theme of Unity**

**Invitation to Confession**

28 We have come together as God's family  
29 to pray for the recovery of the unity of Christ's Church  
30 and for the renewal of our common life.  
31 The Lord is full of gentleness and compassion.  
32 In penitence and faith let us ask his forgiveness of our sins.

*[Promise p246]*

35 *or*

36 Our Lord Jesus Christ says,  
37 "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another,  
38 as I have loved you."  
39 Let us confess to almighty God our failure to  
40 accept his love, and to share it with others.

*[Promise p247]*

43 *or*

44 In the presence of the God and Father of us all,  
45 we meet together to give thanks for the spiritual unity  
46 which is already ours as members of the Body of Christ.  
47 Let us acknowledge our sin,  
48 that this unity may, by God's grace, become a visible unity,  
49 so that his Church in every place may demonstrate  
50 the healing power of the Gospel,

1 and be an instrument of his peace  
2 in the life of the world.

[*Promise p247\**]

**Confession**

6 Most merciful God,  
7 we confess that we have sinned against you  
8 and against one another,  
9 in thought, and word, and deed.  
10 We are truly sorry for our pride,  
11 and for our lack of faith, of understanding, and of love.  
12 We repent of our narrow-mindedness,  
13 of our bitterness and our prejudices.  
14 Pardon and forgive us,  
15 save us and renew us,  
16 that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways;  
17 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[*Promise p247*]

**Kyrie Confessions**

21 Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us  
22 to one another and to the Father:  
23 Lord, have mercy.  
24 **Lord, have mercy.**

26 Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:  
27 Christ, have mercy.  
28 **Christ, have mercy.**

30 Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:  
31 Lord, have mercy.  
32 **Lord, have mercy.**

34 *or*  
35 There is one Body and one Spirit,  
36 and one hope of our calling.  
37 Lord, have mercy.  
38 **Lord, have mercy.**

40 There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.  
41 Christ, have mercy.  
42 **Christ, have mercy.**

44 There is one God and Father of us all,  
45 above all and through all and in all.  
46 Lord, have mercy.  
47 **Lord, have mercy.**

**Acts of Penitence**

**1**

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace:  
give us grace seriously to lay to heart  
the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions.  
We confess our hatred and prejudice  
and all else that hinders us from godly union and concord.  
As there is but one Body and one Spirit,  
and one hope of our calling,  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of us all,  
so may we henceforth be all of one heart and soul,  
united in one holy bond of truth and peace,  
of faith and charity,  
and with one mouth give you glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**2**

*The president prays over a vessel of water*

God our Father,  
your gift of water  
brings life and freshness to the earth;  
in baptism it is a sign  
of the washing away of our sins  
and the gift of life eternal.

Sanctify this water, we pray:  
renew the living spring of your life within us,  
that we may be free from sin  
and filled with your saving health;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*[Promise p249]*

*The president and people are sprinkled.  
Meanwhile suitable anthems may be sung.*

*The president concludes*

May almighty God cleanse us from sin  
and make us worthy of the kingdom of his glory. Amen.

**Collects**

Heavenly Father,  
you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ  
to continue his work of reconciliation

1 and reveal you to the world.  
2 Forgive us the sins which tear us apart;  
3 give us the courage to overcome our fears  
4 and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will;  
5 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
6 who is alive and reigns with you,  
7 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
8 one God, now and for ever.

[CW:President's p217]

11 Lord Jesus Christ,  
12 who said to your apostles,  
13 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you':  
14 look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church  
15 and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom;  
16 where you are alive and reign with the Father  
17 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
18 one God, now and for ever.

[CW:President's p217]

**Gospel Acclamation**

23 Alleluia, alleluia.  
24 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
25 to which indeed you were called in the one body.  
26 **Alleluia.**

*Colossians 3.15*

29 *or*  
30 Alleluia, alleluia.  
31 There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
32 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.  
33 **Alleluia.**

*Ephesians 4.5*

36 *or*  
37 Alleluia, alleluia.  
38 May all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you,  
39 may they also be in us,  
40 so that the world may believe that you have sent me, says the Lord. **Alleluia.**

*John 17.21*

**Intercession**

44 In faith let us pray to God our Father,  
45 his Son Jesus Christ,  
46 and the Holy Spirit.  
47 **Kyrie eleison.**  
48  
49 For the Church of God throughout the world,  
50 let us invoke the Spirit.  
51 **Kyrie eleison.**

1 For the leaders of the nations,  
2 that they may establish and defend justice and peace,  
3 let us pray for the wisdom of God.

4 **Kyrie eleison.**

6 For those who suffer oppression or violence,  
7 let us invoke the power of the Deliverer.

8 **Kyrie eleison.**

10 That the churches may discover again their visible unity  
11 in the one baptism which incorporates them in Christ,  
12 let us pray for the love of Christ.

13 **Kyrie eleison.**

15 That the churches may attain communion  
16 in the eucharist around one table,  
17 let us pray for the strength of Christ.

18 **Kyrie eleison.**

20 That the churches may recognize each other's ministries  
21 in the service of their one Lord,  
22 let us pray for the peace of Christ.

23 **Kyrie eleison.**

25 *Free prayer of the congregation may follow.*

27 Into your hands, O Lord,  
28 we commend all for whom we pray,  
29 trusting in your mercy;  
30 through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

31 **Amen.**

[Promise p251]

### Introductions to the Peace

34 If our life in Christ means anything,  
35 if love can persuade at all,  
36 or the Spirit that we have in common,  
37 or any tenderness and sympathy,  
38 then be united in your conviction  
39 and united in your love,  
40 with a common purpose and a common mind.

[Promise p255]

42 *or*

43 Christ is our hope;  
44 we give him glory for the great grace  
45 by which upon the cross  
46 he stretched out his hands in love to us all.  
47 By that same grace may he come, our risen Saviour,  
48 into every gesture of unity and fellowship  
49 which we make toward one another,  
50 and make the peace we share his peace.

[Promise p256]

1 *or*  
2 We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
3 We belong to him through faith,  
4 heirs of the promise of peace.

[CW p290]

6  
7 *or*  
8 Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles,  
9 “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.”  
10 Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church,  
11 and grant it that peace and unity which is according to your will.

[Roman Missal]

14 **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

15  
16 As the grain once scattered in the fields  
17 and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
18 are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
19 so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
20 from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

[CW p292]

21  
22  
23 *or*  
24 Lord,  
25 hear the prayers of your people  
26 as we celebrate this memorial of our salvation.  
27 May this sacrament of your love  
28 unite us more closely to you and to each other.  
29 Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Roman Missal\*]

30  
31  
32 *or*  
33 As this bread was scattered  
34 and then gathered and made one;  
35 so may your Church be gathered into your Kingdom.  
36 **Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

37  
38 Wisdom has built her a house;  
39 she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.  
40 **Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

[Promise p257]

41  
42  
43 *or*  
44 God of power and love,  
45 by your Holy Spirit,  
46 draw the scattered flock of Christ into a visible unity  
47 and make your Church  
48 as sign of hope to our divided world;  
49 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[Book of Common Order p419]

50  
51

**Prefaces**

1  
2  
3 And now we give you thanks  
4 because of the unity you have given us in your Son  
5 and that you are the God and Father of us all,  
6 above all and through all and in all.

[CW:President's p608]

7  
8  
9 *or*

10 And now we give you thanks  
11 because you gather your scattered children into your Church  
12 to be as one even as you, Father, are one  
13 with your Son and the Holy Spirit.  
14 You call us to be one people,  
15 to praise your wisdom in all your works,  
16 to be the body of Christ  
17 and the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

[Roman Missal\*]

**Extended Preface**

21  
22 Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
23 we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
24 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
25 By him, your only Son,  
26 who restored to us peace through the blood of his Cross,  
27 you willed to reconcile all creatures.  
28 In him you have led us to the knowledge of your truth,  
29 that bound together by one faith and one baptism  
30 we might become his body.  
31 Through him you have given your Holy Spirit to all peoples  
32 to work marvels by innumerable gifts  
33 and an abundant variety of graces.  
34 Gathering us together in unity,  
35 your Spirit dwells in the hearts of all your children,  
36 filling the whole Church with his presence  
37 and guiding it with wisdom from above.  
38 And so, with steadfast love  
39 we proclaim your glory  
40 and join with hosts of angels  
41 in their triumphant hymn of praise:

[ICEL\*]

**Post Communions**

44  
45 Eternal God and Father,  
46 whose Son at supper  
47 prayed that his disciples might be one,  
48 as he is one with you;  
49 draw us closer to him,  
50 that in common love and obedience to you  
51 we may be united to one another



1 in the fellowship of the one Spirit,  
2 that the world may believe that he is Lord,  
3 to your eternal glory;  
4 through the same Christ our Lord.

[CW:President's p217]

5 *or*

6 God our Father,  
7 whose Son at table offered himself  
8 as the innocent Lamb,  
9 and gave us this memorial of his passion  
10 until the end of time;  
11 for ever nourish your people  
12 with his living bread and saving cup,  
13 and strengthen them in holiness,  
14 that the family of mankind may live  
15 in the light of one faith  
16 in one communion of love;  
17 through the same Christ our Lord.

[Promise p258]

20  
21 **Blessing**

22  
23 The Lord Jesus Christ,  
24 Son of the living God,  
25 teach you to walk in his way more trustfully,  
26 to accept his truth more faithfully,  
27 and to share his life more lovingly;  
28 that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
29 you may come as one family to the kingdom of the Father.  
30 And the blessing ...

[Promise p258\*]

31  
32  
33 **An Alternative Dismissal on the theme of Unity**

34  
35 *After the post-Communion prayers a hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be*  
36 *used*

37  
38 **Acclamation**

39 There is one body and one Spirit,  
40 **one hope in God's call.**

41  
42 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
43 **one God, Father of all, over all and in all.**

44 **The Dismissal Gospel**

45  
46 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
47 **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

48  
49 [Jesus said,] '...As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world  
50 may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they

1 may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be completely one, so that the  
2 world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.'

3 *John 17.21b-23*

4 *or*

5  
6 [Jesus said,] 'I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father  
7 knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that  
8 do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be  
9 one flock, one shepherd.'

10 *John 10.14-16*

11  
12 *At the end the reader says*  
13 *This is the gospel of the Lord.*

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

15  
16 *Blessing*

17  
18 May God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
19 three persons in one God,  
20 inspire you to live as one,  
21 that you may witness to the perfect unity of his love;  
22 and the blessing....

23 *Dismissal*

24 One in heart and one mind, and empowered by the Spirit, go...

25  
26  
27 **Acclamations**

28  
29 This is the message we have heard from the beginning:  
30 **that we should love one another.**

31  
32 Christ is our peace, who has made us one:  
33 **he has broken down the barriers which divided us.**

34  
35  
36 *or*

37 There is one body and one Spirit,  
38 **one hope in God's call.**

39  
40 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
41 **one God, Father of all, over all and in all.**

42  
43 *or*

44 We are the body of Christ.  
45 **In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body.**

46  
47 Let us pursue all that makes for peace  
48 **and builds up our common life.**

49 *[CW p290 responsified]*

**Short Passages of Scripture**

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. *Colossians 3.14-15*

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. *Matthew 18.20*

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. *Ephesians 2.19-21*

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. *1 Corinthians 10.17*

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Romans 15.5*

**Seasonal Material connected with Theme of Mission**

**Invitations to Confession**

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. In penitence and faith, let us confess our sins:

*1 John 2.1-2 [Promise p241]*

*or*

I set no store by life: I only want to finish the race and complete the task which the Lord Jesus assigned to me, of bearing witness to the gospel of God's grace. Conscious of our failure to proclaim the gospel, let us call to mind our sins:

*[Promise p241]*

*or*

Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink. Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness.

Let us confess our sins and our failure to make God's will our priority:

*Matthew 6.31, 33*

**Kyrie confessions**

'I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink.'  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

1 'I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,  
2 naked and you did not clothe me.'  
3 Christ, have mercy.  
4 **Christ, have mercy.**

5  
6 'I was sick and you did not visit me,  
7 in prison and you did not come to me.'  
8 Lord, have mercy.  
9 **Lord, have mercy.**

[Promise p242]

10  
11 *or*  
12 We have not held out the word of life  
13 in a dark and twisted world:  
14 Lord, have mercy.  
15 **Lord, have mercy.**

16  
17 We have failed to share our bread with the hungry:  
18 Christ, have mercy.  
19 **Christ, have mercy.**

20  
21 We have closed our hearts to the love of God;  
22 Lord, have mercy.  
23 **Lord, have mercy.**

Collects

24  
25  
26  
27 Almighty God,  
28 who called your Church to witness  
29 that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:  
30 help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
31 that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
32 through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
33 and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
34 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p216]

35  
36  
37 *or*  
38 Almighty God,  
39 who on the day of Pentecost  
40 sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples  
41 with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,  
42 filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel:  
43 send us out in the power of the same Spirit  
44 to witness to your truth and to draw all to the fire of your love;  
45 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
46 who is alive and reigns with you  
47 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
48 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[ASB p635\*]

**Gospel Acclamations**

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51

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Go and make disciples of all the nations,  
says the Lord;  
I am with you always, to the end of the age.  
**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 28.19-20*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Go into all the world,  
says the Lord,  
and proclaim the good news to all creation.  
**Alleluia.**

*Mark 16.15*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.  
**Alleluia.**

*John 3.16*

**Intercession**

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

*All or some of these petitions may be used*

God of our salvation,  
hope of all the ends of the earth,  
we pray  
**Your kingdom come.**

That the world may know Jesus Christ  
as the Prince of Peace,  
we pray  
**Your kingdom come.**

That all who are estranged and without hope  
may be brought near in the blood of Christ,  
we pray  
**Your kingdom come.**

That the Church may be one in serving  
and proclaiming the gospel,  
we pray  
**Your kingdom come.**

1 That we may be bold to speak the word of God  
2 while you stretch out your hand to save,  
3 we pray  
4 **Your kingdom come.**

6 That the Church may be generous in giving,  
7 faithful in serving, bold in proclaiming,  
8 we pray  
9 **Your kingdom come.**

11 That the Church may welcome and support  
12 all whom God calls to faith,  
13 we pray  
14 **Your kingdom come.**

16 That all who serve the gospel may be kept in safety  
17 while your Word accomplishes its purpose,  
18 we pray  
19 **Your kingdom come.**

21 That all who suffer for the gospel  
22 may know the comfort and glory of Christ,  
23 we pray  
24 **Your kingdom come.**

26 That the day may come when every knee shall bow  
27 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
28 we pray  
29 **Your kingdom come.**

31 Almighty God,  
32 by your Holy Spirit you have made us one  
33 with your saints in heaven and on earth:  
34 grant that in our earthly pilgrimage  
35 we may ever be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer,  
36 and know ourselves surrounded by their witness  
37 to your power and mercy;  
38 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
39 **Amen.**

[Promise p242-3\*]

## Introductions to the Peace

44 God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.  
45 First be reconciled to one another.

[Promise p244]

48 *or*

49 Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you  
50 for the glory of God.

[Promise p244]

1 *or*  
2 Christ came and proclaimed the gospel:  
3 peace to those who are far off  
4 and peace to those who are near.

[*Promise p244*]

**Prayers at the preparation of the Table**

8  
9 Father, look upon the face of Jesus Christ your Son  
10 who gave up his life to set all people free.  
11 From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
12 may your name be great among the nations,  
13 and in every place a pure sacrifice be offered to your glory.  
14 We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*cf Malachi 1.11*

15  
16  
17 *or*  
18 Faithful God, receive all we offer you this day.  
19 May we so live the life of Christ  
20 that your Church may be a sign of salvation  
21 to all the nations of the world.  
22 We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

[*BAS (Canada)*]

**Extended Prefaces**

23  
24  
25  
26  
27 Father, we give you thanks and praise  
28 through Jesus Christ our Lord  
29 because you are God almighty,  
30 creator of the world and all that is in it.  
31 Through him you made the whole human race  
32 and in him you show us the mystery of your purpose.  
33 In him you will bring all things together under him as head,  
34 all things in heaven, all things on earth.  
35 Through him we have heard the word of truth,  
36 the good news of salvation,  
37 and you have marked us with the seal of your promised Spirit.  
38 We who were once far off  
39 have been brought near by the blood of Christ,  
40 for he is the peace between us,  
41 and has broken down the barrier of hostility.  
42 He has made of us one new humanity  
43 and reconciled us to you by the cross.  
44 Through him with angels and archangels  
45 and all the company of heaven,  
46 we come before you, Father, by the Holy Spirit,  
47 for ever praising you and *saying*:

[*New Patterns G81\**]

1 *or*  
2 Living God, Father of light,  
3 hope of nations, friend of sinners,  
4 builder of the city that is to come;  
5 your love is made visible in Jesus Christ,  
6 you bring home the lost, restore the sinner  
7 and give dignity to the despised.  
8 In the face of Jesus Christ your light shines out,  
9 flooding lives with goodness and truth,  
10 gathering into one a divided and broken humanity.  
11 With people from ever race and nation,  
12 with the Church of all the ages,  
13 with apostles, evangelist and martyrs  
14 we join the angels of heaven in their unending song:

[New Patterns G86]

**Post Communion**

15  
16  
17  
18  
19 Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
20 your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
21 to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
22 confirm us in this mission,  
23 and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
24 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p216]

**An Alternative Dismissal on the theme of Mission**

25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30 *After the post-Communion prayers a Hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be*  
31 *used*

**Acclamation**

32  
33  
34  
35 *This acclamation may be said*  
36 O Lord, open my lips  
37 **and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

38  
39 When we were still helpless  
40 **Christ died for the ungodly.**

41  
42  
43 The proof of God's amazing love is this:  
44 **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

*cf Romans 5.6,8 [New Patterns G36]*



*The Dismissal Gospel*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

*Matthew 28.19-20*

*or*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

*John 20.21-22*

*At the end the reader says*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Blessing*

The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,  
cleanse you by his holiness  
and send you to proclaim his word.

**Amen.**

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

**Amen.**

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,  
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

**Amen.**

*[New Patterns J98]*

And the blessing ...

*Dismissal*

The Lord says 'Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations'  
Go ...

**Short Passages of Scripture**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for the human race.

*Titus 2.11*

The love of Christ leaves us no choice because we are convinced that one man has died for all.

*2 Corinthians 5.14*

What we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

*2 Corinthians 4.5*

The secret is revealed: Christ in you, the hope of glory.

*Colossians 1.27*

The spirit of truth will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses.

*John 16.26-27*

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples.

*Psalms 96.3*

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

*Isaiah 12.4*

The Lord has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

*Isaiah 61.1-2*

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.

*Matthew 16.24*

This promise is for you, for your children and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.

*Acts 2.39*

**The Eucharist on the Feast of the Epiphany**

***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung. The president may say*

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Greeting**

*The president says*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting**

**your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

*[Promise p233]*

1 The Lord of glory be with you.

2 **The Lord bless you.**

3

4 *or*

5 The Lord be with you

6 **and also with you.**

7

8 *Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

9

10

## Prayers of Penitence

11 The grace of God has dawned upon the world

12 with healing for all.

13 Though we have grieved him, yet he will heal us

14 if we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

15

[CW p304]

16 *Silence is kept.*

17 God be gracious to us and bless us,

18 and make your face shine upon us:

19 Lord, have mercy.

20 **Lord, have mercy.**

21

22 May your ways be known on the earth,

23 your saving power among the nations:

24 Christ, have mercy.

25 **Christ, have mercy.**

26

27 You, Lord, have made known your salvation,

28 and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

29 Lord, have mercy.

30 **Lord, have mercy.**

31

[New Patterns B60]

32

33 *or another authorised form of Confession may be used.*

34

35 Almighty God,

36 who forgives all who truly repent,

37 have mercy upon you,

38 pardon and deliver you from all your sins,

39 confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

40 and keep you in life eternal;

41 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

42

[CW p170]

43

## Gloria in Excelsis

44

45 *Gloria in Excelsis may be used*

46

47

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
Let us pray, grateful for the glory revealed today through God made flesh.

O God,  
who by the leading of a star  
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:  
mercifully grant that we,  
who know you now by faith,  
may at last behold your glory face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p383]

*or*  
Creator of the heavens,  
who led the Magi by a star  
to worship the Christ-child:  
guide and sustain us,  
that we may find our journey's end  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW Additional Collect]

***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**Gospel Reading**

*The Gospel may be read from the Crib. This acclamation may herald the gospel reading.*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations  
and believed in throughout the world.  
**Alleluia.**

*When the gospel is announced the reader says*  
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[CW p304]

1  
2 *At the end*  
3 This is the gospel of the Lord.  
4 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

6 **Acclamations at the Presentation of the Gifts**

7  
8 *The traditional gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh may now be offered at the Crib. Alternatively,*  
9 *the three figures of the wise men may be placed in the Crib.*

10  
11 *At the offering of Gold*  
12 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:  
13 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
14 As gold in the furnace is tried  
15 and purified seven times in the fire,  
16 so purify our hearts and minds  
17 that we may be a royal priesthood  
18 acceptable in the service of your kingdom.  
19 **Blessed be God for ever.**

20  
21 *At the offering of Incense*  
22 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:  
23 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
24 As our prayer rises up before you as incense,  
25 so may we be presented before you  
26 with penitent hearts and uplifted hands  
27 to offer ourselves in your priestly service.  
28 **Blessed be God for ever.**

29  
30 *At the offering of Myrrh*  
31 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe:  
32 to you be praise and glory for ever!  
33 As you give medicine to heal our sickness  
34 and the leaves of the tree of life  
35 for the healing of the nations,  
36 so anoint us with your healing power  
37 that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.  
38 **Blessed be God for ever.**

39 *[Promise p223-4]*

40  
41 **Sermon**

42  
43 **Creed**

44 *An authorized translation of the Nicene Creed is used.*

45  
46 **Prayers of Intercession**

47 Today the Wise Men knelt before our saviour.  
48 Let us also kneel to worship him with great joy,  
49 and to make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

50

1 Father, the Wise Men came from the east to worship your Son:  
2 grant to Christians everywhere a true spirit of adoration.  
3 Lord, in your mercy  
4 **Hear our prayer.**

6 Father, you are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords:  
7 grant an abundance of peace to your world.  
8 Lord, in your mercy  
9 **Hear our prayer.**

11 Father, the Holy Family shared the life of the people of Nazareth:  
12 protect in your mercy our neighbours and families,  
13 together with the whole community of which we are part.  
14 Lord, in your mercy  
15 **Hear our prayer.**

17 Father, though you were rich, for our sake you became poor:  
18 show your love for the poor and powerless,  
19 and strengthen (...and all) those who suffer.  
20 Lord, in your mercy  
21 **Hear our prayer.**

23 Father, the Wise Men presented to your Son  
24 gold, incense and myrrh:  
25 accept the gifts we bring,  
26 and the offering of our hearts at the beginning of this new year.  
27 Lord, in your mercy  
28 **Hear our prayer.**

30 Father, you are the King of Heaven, the hope of all who trust in you:  
31 give to (...and all) the faithful departed  
32 the wonders of your salvation.  
33 Lord, in your mercy  
34 **Hear our prayer.**

36 Rejoicing in the fellowship of wise men, shepherds, and angels,  
37 and of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph,  
38 we commend ourselves and all Christian people  
39 to your unfailing love.

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

[Promise p224-5\*]

***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

**Peace**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts  
since as members of one body you are called to peace.

*[New Patterns H4]*

*or*

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there shall be no end.

*[CW p304]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

**Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*One of these prayers may be said.*

Gracious God,  
accept the offering of your Church,  
the hearts of your people  
joined in praise and thanksgiving,  
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

*[BAS(Canada)]*

*or*

Lord, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise  
of Jesus Christ our light and our salvation.

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

**Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.  
One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

And now we give you thanks  
because, in the incarnation of the Word,  
a new light has dawned upon the world,  
that all the nations may be brought out of darkness  
to see the radiance of your glory.

[CW p304]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
for by the leading of a star  
you have revealed your only Son to the world,  
that in following him  
we are led from darkness into his marvellous light.

*or*

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
for at this time we celebrate your glory  
made present in our midst.  
In the coming of the Magi  
the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.  
In the waters of baptism  
Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
the Saviour sent to redeem us.  
In the water made wine  
the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.  
Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

[CW p305]

**The Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**



1 *The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

3 **Giving of Communion**

4 *The president says this or another invitation to communion*

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

8 **Jesus Christ is holy,**  
9 **Jesus Christ is Lord,**  
10 **to the glory of God the Father.**

11 [CW p180]

12  
13 *The Prayer of Humble Access may be used.*

14  
15 *The president and people receive communion.*

16  
17 *Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*

18  
19 **Amen.**

20 *During the distribution hymns, carols and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is*  
21 *followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

22  
23 **Prayer after Communion**

24  
25 *Silence is kept.*

26  
27 *The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

28  
29 Lord God,  
30 the bright splendour whom the nations seek:  
31 may we who with the wise men  
32 have been drawn by your light  
33 discern the glory of your presence in your Son,  
34 the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

35 **Amen.**

36 [CW p383]

37  
38 *One of the prayers on page 00 may be said.*

39  
40 ***The Dismissal***

41  
42 *After the post-Communion prayers a Hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be*  
43 *used*

44  
45 **Acclamation**

46 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.

47 **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

48  
49 From the rising of the sun to its setting  
50 your name is proclaimed in all the world.

51 **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

1 When the time had fully come  
2 you sent the Sun of Righteousness.  
3 **In him the fullness of your glory dwells.**  
4 **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

[New Patterns G40]

**The Dismissal Gospel**

9 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
10 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

12 Simeon took [the child, Jesus] in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing  
13 your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you  
14 have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to  
15 your people Israel'.

Luke 2.28-32

18 *At the end the reader says*  
19 This is the gospel of the Lord.  
20 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Blessing**

23 *This or another blessing may be used.*  
24 May God the Father,  
25 who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star  
26 to find the Christ, the Light of Light,  
27 lead you in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

29 May God who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
30 give us a place with the saints in light  
31 in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **Amen.**

33 May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ  
34 shine in your hearts and fill our lives  
35 with his joy and peace. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p575]

37 And the blessing of God almighty,  
38 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
39 be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

42 Christ is revealed to all creation. Go...

**The Eucharist on the Festival of the Baptism of Christ**

***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung. The president may say*  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Greeting**

*The president says*  
Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe!  
**From the rising of the sun to its setting**  
**your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

*[Promise p223]*

The Lord of glory be with you.  
**The Lord bless you.**

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

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*  
*The Prayer of Preparation may be said*

*Prayers of Penitence occur later in the Eucharist.*

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*The Gloria in Excelsis may be used*

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
Let us pray that we may be faithful to our baptism.

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling  
as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[CW p383]*

***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**Gospel Reading**

Alleluia, alleluia.

This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

**Alleluia.**

[Matt 3.17]

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism**

*Water is poured into the Font with these words.*

The springs of water were made holy

When Christ appeared on earth.

Draw water from the wells of salvation;

For by his baptism

Christ our God

has made the whole creation one.

[Promise p216]

*or*

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**Lord, give us water, and we shall thirst no more.**

[CW p48]

*The president stands before the water, and says*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

1 Father, we give you thanks and praise  
2 for your gift of water in creation;  
3 for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters,  
4 bringing light and life;  
5 for your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
6 baptized in the river Jordan.

7  
8 We bless you for your new creation,  
9 brought to birth by water and the Spirit,  
10 and for your grace bestowed upon us your children,  
11 washing away our sins.

12  
13 May your holy and life-giving Spirit  
14 move upon these waters.  
15 Restore through them the beauty of your creation,  
16 and bring those who are baptized  
17 to new birth in the family of your Church.

18  
19 Drown sin in the waters of judgement,  
20 anoint your children with power from on high,  
21 and make them one with Christ  
22 in the freedom of your kingdom.  
23 For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours,  
24 now and for ever.

25 **Alleluia. Amen.**

[CW:Initiation p74-5]

26  
27  
28 *This or other suitable chants or acclamations may be sung*

29  
30 I saw water flowing  
31 from the threshold of the Temple.  
32 **Wherever the river flows**  
33 **everything will spring to life. Alleluia.**

34 On the banks of the river grow the trees  
35 bearing every kind of fruit.

36 **Their leaves will not wither**  
37 **nor their fruit fail.**

38 Their fruit will serve for food,  
39 their leaves for the healing of the nations.

40 **For the river of the water of life**  
41 **Flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.**

[CW p48]

42  
43  
44 *The Thanksgiving over Water may be followed by this act of penitence and dedication.*

45  
46 God of truth,  
47 you are faithful to the covenant you have made with us;  
48 look in mercy on your people.  
49 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
50 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**  
51

1 We have broken the pledges of our baptism,  
2 and failed to be your disciples.  
3 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
4 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

5  
6 Though we are saved by Christ  
7 and dead to sin through the deep waters of death,  
8 we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.  
9 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
10 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

11  
12 We have shown indifference to those in need  
13 and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth.  
14 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
15 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

16  
17 We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember  
18 your repeated forgiveness of our sins.  
19 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
20 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

21  
22 Today we rejoice and give thanks  
23 because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the  
24 Jordan.  
25 Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism  
26 for the remission of sins.  
27 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
28 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

29  
30 Through water and Spirit  
31 you give us new life as the people of God,  
32 and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant.  
33 Cleanse us, Lord, from all our sins:  
34 **Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.**

35  
36 Almighty God,  
37 in our baptism you have consecrated us  
38 to be temples of your Holy Spirit.  
39 May we whom you have counted worthy,  
40 nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith,  
41 and worship you with upright lives;  
42 through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[Promise p229]

43  
44  
45 *The water may be sprinkled over the people, or they may come and sign themselves with the Cross*  
46 *in it as the president says*

47  
48 ‘Come’, say the Spirit and the Bride,  
49 ‘Come forward, you who are thirsty,  
50 receive the water of life,  
51 free gift to all who desire it.’

1 May almighty God have mercy on *us*,  
2 forgive *us our* sins,  
3 and bring *us* to everlasting life,  
4 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
5 **Amen.**

[*New Patterns B74*]

8 ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

10 **The Peace**

12 God has made us one in Christ.  
13 He has set his seal upon us,  
14 and as a pledge of what is to come  
15 has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

[*CW p320*]

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

21 *These words may be added*  
22 Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

24 *All may exchange a sign of peace.*

26 **Preparation of the Table**

28 **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

29 *A hymn may be sung.*

31 *The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

35 *This prayer may be said*

37 Open the heavens, Lord our God,  
38 and send your transforming spirit  
39 on us and on these gifts.  
40 May we who are baptized into Christ  
41 be ready to share his cup of suffering  
42 and strengthened to serve him for ever.  
43 **Amen.**

45 *The president takes the bread and wine.*

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.  
One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

And now we give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
whose willing submission to the way of righteousness  
is the pattern of our calling  
to be his people and live in his way.

*or*

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
You celebrated your new gift of Baptism  
in signs and wonders at the Jordan.  
Your voice was heard from heaven  
to awaken faith in the presence among us  
of your Word made flesh.  
Your Spirit was seen as a dove,  
revealing Jesus as your servant,  
and anointing him with the oil of gladness  
to preach the good news to the poor.  
Therefore as we celebrate the union of earth and heaven,  
we rejoice to echo the song of the angels in heaven  
for ever praising you and saying:

*[Promise p231\*]*

**The Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

**Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
to share in the body of Christ.  
and that life is the light of the world:  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*[Promise p231]*

*The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*



**Giving of Communion**

*The president says this or another invitation to 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.**

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be said.*

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*  
**Amen.**

*During the distribution hymns, carols and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

**Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens  
and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p384]

*One of the prayers on page 00 may be said.*

**The Dismissal**

**Acclamation**

The Father's voice bears witness to the Son.  
**God has revealed himself to us.**

The Son bows his head beneath the Baptist's stream.  
**God has revealed himself to us.**

The Spirit as a dove descends from heaven.  
**God has revealed himself to us.**

1 Submitting to John's baptism, Christ delivers us from bondage.

2 **God has revealed himself to us.**

3 *[Derived from the Byzantine Rite and Promise]*

5 **The Dismissal Gospel**

7 Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

11 John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I  
12 myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom  
13 you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I myself  
14 have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

15 *John 1.32-34*

17 *At the end the reader says*

18 This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

21 **Blessing**

22 *This or another blessing may be used*

23 May God the Father,  
24 who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star  
25 to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
26 lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord. **Amen.**

28 May God the Son,  
29 who turned water into wine at the Wedding Feast at Cana,  
30 transform your lives and make glad your hearts. **Amen.**

32 May God the Holy Spirit,  
33 who came upon the beloved Son  
34 at his baptism in the River Jordan,  
35 pour out his gifts on you  
36 who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**

37 *[CW:President's p574]*

39 And the blessing of God almighty,  
40 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
41 be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

43 **Dismissal**

44 We have come to Christ, the living water. Go...

***A Service for the Festival of the Baptism of Christ***

**Notes**

- 1 This service is most appropriately used on the Festival of the Baptism of Christ. It may also  
be used on the Feast of the Epiphany, or on the evening before the Epiphany, or at any  
suitable time within the Epiphany season.
- 2 With suitable hymns and carols this service forms an Epiphany Procession or Epiphany  
Carol Service, at the climax of which is the Renewal of the Covenant or of baptismal vows.  
Places are indicated for hymns and carols, but they may be omitted or inserted in other  
places.
- 3 If it is desired to combine this service with a celebration of Holy Communion, the Lord's  
Prayer, the final hymn and the blessing are omitted, and the Holy Communion begins after  
the Renewal of the Covenant, with the Peace. In this case, 'The New Creation is Revealed in  
the Water made Wine', may be more appropriately used after the Renewal of the Covenant.
- 4 Any movement through the church will depend on the position of the Crib, the Font, and the  
Holy Table, and on whether or not the service is combined with a celebration of Holy  
Communion. If the Font is not easily accessible, or too close to the Crib, a large vessel can  
be set on a table in the middle of the church for the Prayer over the Water, to be carried from  
there to the Font at the end of the service.

**Ministries**

- 5 The President of the Rite should normally be a bishop or a priest. The Acclamations may  
appropriately be made by a deacon.

**Gifts**

- 6 The gifts presented may be any one or all three of the traditional gifts. The Christmas  
collections may appropriately be offered at this point. The wine presented may appropriately  
be the wine for use in celebrations of Holy Communion during the year.

**Canticles**

- 7 The Canticles from Isaiah, Revelation and Ezekiel, which are set out here as responses, may  
be said or sung in any suitable form.

**Intercession**

- 8 A Bidding may precede the Opening Prayer, or appropriate Biddings may be introduced  
before the Gospel Collects. Alternatively, provision is made for intercessory prayer later in  
the service.

**A Service for the Festival of the Baptism of Christ**

**Introduction**

Three wonders mark this holy day,  
as the Church is joined to her heavenly Bridegroom.

This day a star leads the wise men to the manger.  
**Alleluia.**

This day water is made wine at the wedding feast.  
**Alleluia.**

This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.  
**Alleluia. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The president greets the people*  
Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.  
**and also with you.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said, after which the president prays this opening prayer*

Grant us, Lord, who behold your glory,  
to drink from the waters of the new creation  
flowing from the river of life at your baptism.  
Give us the wings of the Spirit  
that we may hasten to meet you at your coming,  
and praise you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**The King of all the world is revealed to the Magi**

This day a star leads the wise men to the manger.

Arise, shine out, for your light has come  
**the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**  
The nations will come to your light,  
**and kings to your dawning brightness.**  
They shall bring gold and frankincense  
**and proclaim the praise of the Lord.**  
Your gates will lie open continually,  
**shut neither by day nor by night.**

1 No more will the sun give you daylight,  
2 **nor moonlight shine upon you.**  
3 But the Lord will be your everlasting light,  
4 **your God will be your splendour.**

*from Isaiah 60*

5  
6  
7 *As the gifts are brought, this acclamation is made*

8  
9 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
10 you receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
11 May our prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,  
12 and the lifting up of our hands be an evening sacrifice.  
13 **Blessed be God for ever.**

14  
15 *The Procession, with the gifts, moves to the Crib, as a hymn is sung or music is played. The*  
16 *congregation may follow.*

17  
18 Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
19 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

20  
21 *Matthew 2.1–2, 8–11*

22  
23 *At the end*  
24 This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
25 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

26  
27 *The gifts may be placed before the Crib. The president says*

28  
29 Let us pray.

30  
31 Eternal God,  
32 who by the shining of a star  
33 led the wise men to the worship of your Son:  
34 guide by his light the nations of the earth,  
35 that the whole world may behold your glory;  
36 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

37 **Amen.**

*[ASB]*

38  
39 *Suitable hymns or carols may be sung at this point.*

40  
41 **The new creation is revealed in the water made wine**

42  
43 This day water is made wine at the wedding feast.

44  
45 I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,  
46 coming down out of heaven from God,  
47 **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**  
48 And I heard a great voice from the throne, saying,  
49 **‘Behold, the dwelling of God is among mortals.**  
50 **He will dwell with them and they shall be his peoples,**  
51 **and God himself will be with them.**

1 Behold, I make all things new:  
2 **I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.**  
3 To the thirsty I will give water as a gift  
4 **from the spring of the water of life.**

*from Revelation 21–22*

5  
6  
7 *As a chalice or a flagon of wine is brought, this acclamation is made*

8  
9 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe:  
10 for the marriage of the Lamb has come.  
11 Make your Church ready,  
12 and clothe her with the righteous deeds of the saints,  
13 to join the praises of your new creation.  
14 **Blessed be God for ever.**

15  
16 *The procession, with the chalice or flagon of wine, moves to the Holy Table as a hymn is sung or*  
17 *music is played. The congregation may follow.*

18  
19 Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
20 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

21  
22 *John 2.1–11*

23  
24 *At the end*  
25 This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
26 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

27  
28 *The chalice or flagon of wine may be placed on the holy table. The president says*

29  
30 Let us pray.

31  
32 Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new:  
33 transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
34 and in the renewal of our lives  
35 make known your heavenly glory;  
36 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
37 **Amen.**

*[CW p384]*

38  
39 *Suitable hymns and carols may be sung.*

40  
41 **The Christ is revealed in the waters of Baptism**

42  
43 This day Jesus is revealed as the Christ in the waters of baptism.

44  
45 I will take you from the nations,  
46 **and gather you from all the countries.**  
47 I will sprinkle clean water upon you,  
48 **and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness.**

1 A new heart I will give you,  
2 **and put a new spirit within you.**  
3 You shall be my people,  
4 **and I will be your God.**

*from Ezekiel 36*

5  
6  
7 *As water is brought, this acclamation is made*

8  
9 Blessed are you,  
10 Lord our God, King of the universe:  
11 you bring waters out of the stony rock.  
12 For with you is the well of life,  
13 and in your light shall we see light.  
14 **Blessed be God for ever.**

15  
16 *The procession with the water moves to the Font, as a hymn is sung or music is played.*  
17 *The congregation may follow.*

18  
19 Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  
20 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

21  
22 *Mark 1.1–11 (or 1.4–5, 7–11)*

23  
24 *At the end*  
25 This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
26 **Praise to you, O Christ.**

27  
28 **Collect**

29  
30 *The president says*  
31 Let us pray.

32  
33 Eternal Father,  
34 who at the baptism of Jesus  
35 revealed him to be your Son,  
36 anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
37 grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
38 that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
39 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
40 who is alive and reigns with you,  
41 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
42 one God, now and for Ever.  
43 **Amen.**

44 *[CW p383]*

45  
46 *Before the reading, suitable hymns or carols may be sung.*

47  
48 *After the Collect, the water is poured out with these or other suitable words.*

1 The springs of water were made holy  
2 when Christ appeared on earth.  
3 Draw water from the wells of salvation;  
4 for, by his baptism, Christ our God  
5 has made the whole creation one.  
6  
7 *or*  
8 God in Christ gives us the water welling up for eternal life.  
9 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.  
10 **Lord, give us this water, and we shall thirst no more.**  
11  
12 *The president stands before the water, and says*  
13  
14 The Lord be with you.  
15 **And also with you.**  
16 Lift up your hearts.  
17 **We lift them to the Lord.**  
18 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
19 **It is right to give thanks and praise.**  
20  
21 It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy  
22 at all times to give you thanks and praise,  
23 for today the grace of the Holy Spirit  
24 in the form of a dove descended upon the waters.  
25 [Today the sun that never sets has risen  
26 and the world is filled with splendour  
27 by the light of the Lord.  
28 Today the clouds drop down upon all people  
29 the dew of righteousness from on high.  
30 Today the Uncreated of his own will  
31 accepts the laying on of hands from his own creature.  
32 Today the waters of the Jordan  
33 are transformed for healing by the coming of the Lord.  
34 Today our transgressions are washed away by the waters of the river.  
35 Today the blinding mist of the world is dispersed by the Epiphany of our God.  
36 Today things above keep feast with things below,  
37 and things below commune with things above.  
38 Therefore, heavenly Father,  
39 accept our sacrifice of praise,  
40 and by the power of your life-giving Spirit  
41 sanctify these waters of your new creation,  
42 that we, with all who have been born anew  
43 by water and the Spirit,  
44 may be renewed in your image,  
45 walk by the light of faith,  
46 and serve you in newness of life.  
47 Through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
48 to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
49 we lift our voices of praise:  
50 **Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,**  
51 **now and for ever. Amen.**



1 *or*

2 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

3 **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

5 Father, for your gift of water in creation

6 **We give you thanks and praise.**

7 For your Spirit, sweeping over the waters, bringing light and life

8 **We give you thanks and praise.**

9 For your son Jesus Christ our Lord, baptized in the river Jordan

10 **We give you thanks and praise.**

11 For your new creation, brought to birth by water and the Spirit

12 **We give you thanks and praise.**

13 For your grace bestowed upon us your children, washing away our sins

14 **We give you thanks and praise.**

16 So, Father, accept our sacrifice of praise;

17 By the power of your life-giving Spirit

18 bless these waters of your new creation.

19 **Lord, receive our prayer.**

21 May we your servants who have been washed in them

22 be made one with your Son, who took the form of a servant.

23 **Lord, receive our prayer.**

25 May your Holy Spirit, who has brought us to new birth

26 in the family of your Church,

27 raise us in Christ, our anointed Lord,

28 to full and eternal life.

29 **Lord, receive our prayer.**

31 For all might, majesty and dominion are yours, now and for ever.

32 **Alleluia. Amen.**

34 *The Prayer over the Water may be followed by a suitable chant or acclamation.*

## **The Renewal of the Covenant**

38 *The form on page 00 is used.*

## **The Prayers**

42 *Prayers may be offered here for the ministry and mission of the Church, and for the world which*  
43 *the Church is called to serve.*

45 As we look for the coming of the Kingdom,

46 let us pray together in the words our Saviour has taught us:

48 *The Lord's Prayer is said.*

1 *The president says*

2  
3 May God the Creator, the rock of our salvation,  
4 who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit  
5 and forgiven all our sins  
6 through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
7 keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever.

8 **Amen.**

9  
10 *The water may be sprinkled over the people, or placed in vessels by the door for them to make the*  
11 *sign of the cross as they leave, or poured out over the threshold.*

12  
13 *These words may be used*

14  
15 Remember your baptism into Christ Jesus.

16 **Thanks be to God.**

17  
18 *A hymn or other chant may be sung.*

19  
20 ***The Sending Out***

21  
22 *The blessing follows in either of these forms*

23  
24 May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water  
25 welling up to eternal life,  
26 perfect in you the image of his glory;  
27 and the blessing ...

[New Patterns J58]

28  
29 *or*

30 May God the Father,  
31 who led the wise men by the shining of a star  
32 to find the Christ, the Light from Light,  
33 lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

34 **Amen.**

35  
36 May God the Son,  
37 who turned water into wine at the wedding feast at Cana,  
38 transform your lives and make glad your hearts.

39 **Amen.**

40  
41 May God the Holy Spirit,  
42 who came upon the beloved Son  
43 at his baptism in the river Jordan,  
44 pour out his gifts on you  
45 who have come to the waters of new birth.

46 **Amen.**

47  
48 And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p574]

*A minister says*

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

## **The Eucharist on the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple**

The procession with lighted candles is the distinctive feature of the Eucharist of Candlemas. This order provides for the procession at the end of the service. However, the Appendix (page 00) makes provision for the procession either at the beginning, or immediately before the Gospel.

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung.*

*The president may say*

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

### **The Greeting**

The Lord of glory be with you.  
**The Lord bless you.**

*or*

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

*The president welcomes the people and introduces the day's liturgy.*

Dear friends: forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognized him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

*[Promise p272]*

*Prayers of Penitence occur later in the Eucharist.*

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*Gloria in Excelsis may be used*

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
Let us pray that we may know and share the light of Christ.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple  
and acclaimed the glory of Israel  
and the light of the nations:  
grant that in him we may be presented to you  
and in the world may reflect his glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p386]

***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**Gospel Reading**

*This acclamation may herald the gospel reading.*

Today the Lord is presented in the Temple  
in substance of our mortal nature.

**Alleluia!**

Today the Blessed Virgin comes  
to be purified in accordance with the law.

**Alleluia!**

Today old Simeon proclaims Christ  
as the light of the nations and the glory of Israel.

**Alleluia! Praise to Christ, the Light of the world!**

[Promise p274]

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 *At the end*

2 This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

5 **Sermon**

7 **The Creed**

9 *An authorized translation of the Nicene Creed is used.*

11 **Prayers of Intercession**

13 *Biddings may be given before the prayers of intercession, which are then said without interpolation.*

14 Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our Light and Life.

16 Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:

17 Look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light.

18 Lord, have mercy.

19 **Christ, have mercy.**

21 Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world:

22 Look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice.

23 Lord, have mercy.

24 **Christ, have mercy.**

26 Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor:

27 Look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him.

28 Lord, have mercy.

29 **Christ, have mercy.**

31 Father, your Christ is the one in whom

32 faithful servants find their peace:

33 Look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation.

34 Lord, have mercy.

35 **Christ, have mercy.**

37 Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected:

38 Look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion.

39 Lord, have mercy.

40 **Christ, have mercy.**

42 Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna

43 and showed them the infant King.

44 Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises,

45 and the patience to wait for their fulfilment;

46 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Prayers of Penitence**

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:  
'I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.'  
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light  
and confess them in penitence and faith.

[CW p306]

**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.**

[CW p276]

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.**

[CW p170]

***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

**The Peace**

In the tender mercy of our God  
the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

1 *These words may be added*  
2 Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
3  
4 *All may exchange a sign of peace.*  
5

**Preparation of the Table**

**Taking of the Bread and Wine**

6  
7  
8  
9 *A hymn may be sung.*  
10  
11 *The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*  
12  
13 *The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*  
14 *This prayer may be said*  
15  
16 Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
17 accept the offering of your Church  
18 and grant that Christ may shine in us  
19 to the praise and glory of your name.  
20 *The president takes the bread and wine.*  
21

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

22  
23  
24 *The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers with a proper preface of the*  
25 *incarnation or one of the following.*  
26  
27 And now we give you thanks  
28 because, by appearing in the Temple  
29 he brings judgement on the world.  
30 The Word made flesh  
31 searches the hearts of all your people,  
32 to bring to light the brightness of your splendour.  
33

[CW p306]

34  
35 *or*  
36 And now we give you thanks  
37 because your eternal Word took our nature upon him  
38 in the womb of Mary the Virgin.  
39 The sword of sorrow pierced her heart  
40 when he was lifted high on the Cross,  
41 and by his sacrifice made our peace with you.  
42

[Promise p278]

43  
44 *or*  
45 It is indeed right and good,  
46 always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
47 through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.  
48 For on this day he appeared in the temple  
49 in substance of our flesh  
50 to come near to us in judgement.  
51 He searches the hearts of all your people

1 and brings to light the image of your splendour.  
2 Your servant Simeon acclaimed him as the  
3 light to lighten the nations  
4 while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption.  
5 Destined for the falling and rising of many,  
6 he was lifted high upon the cross  
7 and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart  
8 when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.  
9 And now we rejoice and glorify your name  
10 that we, too, have seen your salvation  
11 and join with angels and archangels  
12 in their unending hymn of praise:  
13

**The Lord's Prayer**

14  
15  
16 *The Lord's Prayer is said.*  
17

**Breaking of the Bread**

18  
19  
20 *The president breaks the consecrated bread.*  
21

22 We break the bread of life,  
23 and that life is the light of the world.  
24 **God here among us,**  
25 **light in the midst of us,**  
26 **bring us to light and life.**  
27

*[Promise p231]*

28  
29 *The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*  
30

**Giving of Communion**

31  
32  
33 *The president says this or another invitation to communion*  
34 *God's holy gifts*  
35 *for God's holy people.*  
36 **Jesus Christ is holy,**  
37 **Jesus Christ is Lord,**  
38 **to the glory of God the Father.**  
39

40 *The president and people receive communion.*  
41

42 *Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*  
43 **Amen.**  
44

45 *During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*  
46

47 *The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for*  
48 *disposing of what remains.*  
49  
50



***Candlemas Procession***

*If the procession is to take place now, a hymn may be sung while the candles are lit.*

*The president says*

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,  
pour into the hearts of your faithful people  
the brilliance of your eternal splendour,  
that we, who by these kindling flames  
light up this temple to your glory,  
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,  
and so be counted worthy to stand before you  
in that eternal city where you live and reign,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[Promise p280\*]*

*The ministers and people go in procession to the font, or to the door of the church, or to another suitable place. As they process they sing Nunc Dimittis in one of these forms or in another suitable version.*

**A light to lighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:  
your word has been fulfilled.

**A light to lighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation:  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

**A light to lighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

A light to reveal you to the nations:  
and the glory of your people Israel.

**A light to lighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be for ever. **Amen.**

**A light to lighten the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

*[CW p86\*]*

1 *or*  
2 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:  
3 according to thy word.  
4  
5 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
6 which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
7  
8 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:  
9 and to be the glory of thy people Israel.  
10  
11 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
12 and to the Holy Ghost:  
13 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
14 world without end. Amen.

[CW p77]

**Final Responsory**

15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20 *President*  
21  
22 Father, here we bring to an end our celebration  
23 of the Saviour's birth.  
24 **Help us, in whom he has been born,**  
25 **to live his life that has no end.**  
26  
27 Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise.  
28 **Help us, who have received the bread of life,**  
29 **to be thankful for your gift.**  
30  
31 Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.  
32 **Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple,**  
33 **to trust in your eternal promises.**  
34  
35 Here we have greeted the Light of the world.  
36 **Help us, who now extinguish these candles,**  
37 **never to forsake the light of Christ.**  
38  
39 *All now extinguish their candles.*  
40  
41 Here we now stand near the place of baptism.  
42 **Help us, who are marked with the cross,**  
43 **to share the Lord's death and resurrection.**  
44  
45 Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.  
46 **Help us, for whom Lent is near,**  
47 **to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.**  
48  
49

1 Here we bless one another in your name.  
2 **Help us, who now go in peace,**  
3 **to shine with your light in the world.**  
4 **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

[Promise p281]

5  
6  
7 *The ministers and people depart.*  
8

## 9 ***Appendix***

10  
11 If the procession takes place earlier in the service, the congregation assembles in a convenient place.  
12 Candles are distributed before the procession, which may take place at the beginning or before the  
13 reading of the Gospel.  
14

15 The president welcomes the people.  
16

17 May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.  
18 **The Lord bless you.**

[Promise p283]

19  
20  
21 *A hymn or chant may be sung at the lighting of the candles, and this acclamation may be made*  
22

23 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
24 **He is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.**  
25

26 Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe!  
27 You make our darkness to be light.  
28 For with you is the well of life  
29 and in your light shall we see light.  
30 **Blessed be God for ever.**

[Promise p283]

31  
32  
33 *The president blesses the candles, saying*  
34

35 Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,  
36 pour into the hearts of your faithful people  
37 the brilliance of your eternal splendour,  
38 that we, who by these kindling flames  
39 light up this temple to your glory,  
40 may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,  
41 and so be counted worthy to stand before you  
42 in that eternal city where you live and reign,  
43 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
44 one God, now and for ever.  
45 **Amen.**

[Promise p280\*]

46  
47  
48 *Before the procession these responses may be used*  
49

50 We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord,  
51 **in the midst of your temple.**

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49

*Open to us the gates of righteousness*  
**that we may enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

God is the Lord who has shown us light,  
Let us offer in his dwelling  
**an oblation with great gladness.**

[Promise p284]

At the procession a hymn or canticle is sung. At the start of the service this may be the Gloria in Excelsis. If the procession is made before the Gospel, the hymn 'Hail to the Lord who comes' is appropriate. Nunc Dimittis is more suitable when the procession is made at the end of the service.

*When the procession has taken place earlier in the service, then at the end a hymn may be sung, or the canticle Nunc Dimittis in one of the forms on page 00 may be used.*

*The service concludes*

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,  
who did not die until they welcomed the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these your gifts beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes  
to bring us eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

[CW p386]

*or*  
**We thank you, Lord,**  
**that you have fed us in this sacrament,**  
**united us with Christ,**  
**and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet**  
**prepared for all peoples.**  
**Amen.**

[CW p297]

**Blessing**

*The president may say this blessing*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p307]

**The Dismissal**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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# Lent

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## 1 Introduction to the Season

2  
3 Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed  
4 immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion  
5 for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the church's fellowship  
6 for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-  
7 examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has  
8 traditionally been added.  
9

### 10 *Now is the healing time decreed*

11 For sins of heart and word and deed,  
12 When we in humble fear record  
13 The wrong that we have done the Lord

(Latin, before 12 Cent)

14  
15  
16 As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared  
17 themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian  
18 community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, whose extension over  
19 forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by  
20 Satan.  
21

22 Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the middle ages it became the custom to begin Lent by  
23 being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied  
24 considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end  
25 of Holy Week, so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical  
26 dress is the simplest possible. Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. The *Gloria in*  
27 *Excelsis* is not used. The fourth Sunday of Lent (*Laetare* or Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a  
28 day of relief from the rigour of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation almost always falls in Lent;  
29 these breaks from austerity are the background to the modern observance of Mothering Sunday.  
30

31 As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate  
32 the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth  
33 Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in  
34 Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy. The Stations of the Cross, made popular in the West by  
35 the Franciscans after they were granted custody of the Christian sites in the Holy Land, are the best  
36 known.  
37

## 38 The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday

### Structure

#### 43 *The Gathering*

44 Greeting  
45 Introduction to the Rite  
46 Collect  
47

#### 48 *The Liturgy of the Word*

49 Readings  
50 Gospel reading  
51 Sermon

*The Liturgy of Penitence*

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Imposition of Ashes  
Absolution

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

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*Dismissal*

Responsory  
Dismissal Gospel  
Blessing  
Dismissal

**The Liturgy of Ash Wednesday**

***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung. The president may say*  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[CW p167]

**The Greeting**

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

[CW p167]

*The president explains the meaning of Lent and invites the people to observe it faithfully.*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting.

By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the Gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.



1  
2 I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-  
3 examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on  
4 God's holy word.

5  
6 *The Trisagion or another suitable penitential song may be used*  
7

8 **Holy God,**  
9 **holy and strong,**  
10 **holy and immortal,**  
11 **have mercy upon us.**  
12

13 **The Collect**  
14

15 Let us pray for grace to keep Lent faithfully.  
16

17 *Silence is kept.*  
18

19 Almighty and everlasting God,  
20 you hate nothing that you have made  
21 and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent.  
22 create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
23 that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
24 and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
25 may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
26 perfect remission and forgiveness;  
27 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
28 who is alive and reigns with you,  
29 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
30 one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**  
31

[CW p392]

32 *or*  
33

34 Holy God,  
35 our lives are laid open before you.  
36 rescue us from the chaos of sin  
37 and through the death of your Son  
38 bring us healing and make us whole  
39 in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  
40

[CW Collects p24]

41  
42 ***The Liturgy of the Word***  
43

44 **Readings**  
45

46 *Either one or two readings from scripture precede the Gospel reading.*  
47

48 *At the end of each the reader may say*  
49

50 This is the word of the Lord.  
51 **Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**Gospel Reading**

*This 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.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

[CW p308]

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

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

**Sermon**

***The Liturgy of Penitence***

**Self-Examination and Confession**

*A minister now leads a corporate examination of conscience using one of these, or another suitable form.*

***Form A***

Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

*All Kneel*

God the Father,  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Son,  
**have mercy on us.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
**have mercy on us.**

Trinity of love,  
**have mercy on us.**

1  
2 **Most merciful God,**  
3 **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**  
4 **we confess that we have sinned**  
5 **in thought, word and deed.**

[CW p169]

6  
7  
8 We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.  
9 We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
10 We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.  
11 **Lord, have mercy.**

12  
13 We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us.  
14 We have not been true to the mind of Christ.  
15 We have grieved your Holy Spirit.  
16 **Lord, have mercy.**

17  
18 We confess to you, Lord ...

19  
20 all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,  
21 **Lord, have mercy.**

22  
23 Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people,  
24 **Lord, have mercy.**

25  
26 Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,  
27 **Lord, have mercy.**

28  
29 Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,  
30 **Lord, have mercy.**

31  
32 Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,  
33 **Lord, have mercy.**

34  
35 Accept our repentance, Lord ...

36  
37 for the wrongs we have done,  
38 for our blindness to human need and suffering,  
39 and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,  
40 **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

41  
42 For all false judgments,  
43 for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours,  
44 and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,  
45 **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

46  
47 For our waste and pollution of your creation,  
48 and our lack of concern for those who come after us,  
49 **Accept our repentance, Lord.**

1 Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;  
2 **Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

3  
4 Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
5 **That we may show your glory in the world.**

6  
7 By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
8 **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

9 *[Based on the Ash Wednesday Liturgy from Epworth Chapel on the Green, 6110 Northview Street,*  
10 *PO Box 972, Boise, Idaho 83701-0972, 336-3951, [www.epworthchapelonthegreen.org](http://www.epworthchapelonthegreen.org)]*

11  
12 *Silence*

13  
14 **We have not loved you with our whole heart.**  
15 **We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**  
16 **In your mercy**  
17 **forgive what we have been,**  
18 **help us to amend what we are,**  
19 **and direct what we shall be;**  
20 **that we may do justly,**  
21 **love mercy,**  
22 **and walk humbly with you, our God.**  
23 **Amen.**

*[CW p169]*

24  
25 *If the people are to be marked with ash this should follow here, otherwise the service continues with*  
26 *an authorised absolution and the exchange of the Peace.*

27  
28 **Form B**

29 Let us now call to mind our sin and the infinite mercy of God.

30 *This Litany may follow*

31 God the Father,  
32 **have mercy on us.**

33  
34 God the Son,  
35 **have mercy on us.**

36  
37 God the Holy Spirit,  
38 **have mercy on us.**

39  
40 Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,  
41 **have mercy on us.**

42  
43 From all evil and mischief;  
44 from pride, vanity, and hypocrisy;  
45 from envy, hatred, and malice;  
46 and from all evil intent,  
47 **good Lord, deliver us.**

1 From sloth, worldliness, and love of money;  
2 from hardness of heart  
3 and contempt for your word and your laws,  
4 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
5  
6 From sins of body and mind;  
7 From the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,  
8 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
9  
10 In all times of sorrow;  
11 in all times of joy;  
12 in the hour of death,  
13 and at the day of judgement,  
14 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
15  
16 By the mystery of your holy incarnation;  
17 by your birth, childhood, and obedience;  
18 by your baptism, fasting, and temptation,  
19 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
20  
21 By your ministry in word and work;  
22 by your mighty acts of power;  
23 and by your preaching of the kingdom,  
24 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
25  
26 By your agony and trial;  
27 by your cross and passion;  
28 and by your precious death and burial,  
29 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
30  
31 By your mighty resurrection;  
32 by your glorious ascension;  
33 and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,  
34 **good Lord, deliver us.**  
35  
36 Give us true repentance;  
37 forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance  
38 and our deliberate sins;  
39 and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit  
40 to amend our lives according to your holy word.  
41 **Holy God,**  
42 **holy and strong,**  
43 **holy and immortal,**  
44 **have mercy upon us.**  
45  
46 *Silence is kept.*  
47  
48 Make our hearts clean, O God;  
49 **and renew a right spirit within us.**  
50

[CW p111-112\*]

[CW p114]

1 **Father eternal, giver of light and grace,**  
2 **we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,**  
3 **in what we have thought,**  
4 **in what we have said and done,**  
5 **and in the good we have not done,**  
6 **through ignorance, through weakness,**  
7 **through our own deliberate fault.**  
8 **We have wounded your love,**  
9 **and marred your image in us.**  
10 **We are sorry and ashamed,**  
11 **and repent of all our sins.**  
12 **For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,**  
13 **forgive us all that is past;**  
14 **and lead us out from darkness**  
15 **to walk as children of light. Amen.**

[CW p276]

18 *If the people are to be marked with ash this should follow here, otherwise the service continues with*  
19 *an authorised absolution and the exchange of the Peace.*

## The Imposition of Ashes

23 *If the imposition of ashes is to follow, the president says*

25 Dear friends in Christ,  
26 I invite you to receive these ashes as a sign of the spirit of penitence with which we shall keep this  
27 season of Lent.

29 God our Father,  
30 you create us from the dust of the earth.  
31 grant that these ashes may be for us  
32 a sign of our penitence  
33 and a symbol of our mortality;  
34 for it is by your grace alone  
35 that we receive eternal life  
36 in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

[LHWE p26]

39 *The president and people receive the imposition of ashes, the president first receiving the*  
40 *imposition from another minister. At the imposition the minister says to each person*

42 Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.  
43 Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

[LHWE p26\*]

46 *or the ashes may imposed without the use of words.*

48 *During the imposition silence may be kept, or a hymn, anthem or psalm may be sung.*

50 *One of these two prayers may be said by the president.*

1 God our Father,  
2 the strength of all who put their trust in you,  
3 mercifully accept our prayers;  
4 and because, in our weakness,  
5 we can do nothing good without you,  
6 grant us the help of your grace,  
7 that in keeping your commandments  
8 we may please you, both in will and deed;  
9 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[LHWE p27]

11  
12 *or*  
13 The Lord enrich *you* with his grace,  
14 and nourish *you* with his blessing;  
15 the Lord defend *you* in trouble and keep *you* from all evil;  
16 the Lord accept *your* prayers,  
17 and absolve *you* from *your* offences,  
18 for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

[CW p136]

20  
21 ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

22  
23 **The Peace**

24  
25 Since we are justified by faith,  
26 we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
27 who has given us access to his grace.

[CW p308]

28  
29 The peace of the Lord be always with you  
30 **and also with you.**

31  
32 *These words may be added*  
33 Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

34  
35 *All may exchange a sign of peace.*

36  
37 **Preparation of the Table**

38  
39 **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

40 *A hymn may be sung.*

41  
42 *The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

43  
44 *The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

45  
46 *At the preparation of the table one of these prayers may be said*  
47 Merciful Father,  
48 turn us from sin to faithfulness  
49 and from disobedience to love,

1 and prepare us to celebrate  
2 the death and resurrection of Christ our Saviour  
3 who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

[BAS (Canada)\*]

4  
5  
6 *or*

7 Risen Lord and Saviour,  
8 present among us with the wealth of your love.  
9 Cleanse us from sin and give us the faith  
10 to offer our praise and grow in your grace. **Amen.**

11  
12 *The president takes the bread and wine.*

13  
14 **The Eucharistic Prayer**

15  
16 *The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers with one of these proper prefaces.*

17  
18 It is indeed right and good  
19 to give you thanks and praise,  
20 almighty God and everlasting Father,  
21 through Jesus Christ your Son.  
22 For in these forty days  
23 you lead us into the desert of repentance  
24 that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
25 we may grow in grace  
26 and learn to be your people once again.  
27 Through fasting, prayer and acts of service  
28 you bring us back to your generous heart.  
29 Through study of your holy word  
30 you open our eyes to your presence in the world  
31 and free our hands to welcome others  
32 into the radiant splendour of your love.  
33 As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast  
34 with joyful hearts and minds  
35 we bless you for your mercy  
36 and join with saints and angels  
37 for ever praising you and *saying*:

38 [CW p309]

39  
40 *or*

41 And now we give you thanks  
42 because you give us the spirit of discipline,  
43 that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace,  
44 as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery  
45 with mind and heart renewed.

46 [CW p308]



**The Lord's Prayer**

Lord Jesus, remember us in your Kingdom  
and teach us to pray.

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

**The Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup.

**We proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

**The Giving of Communion**

*The president says*  
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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*or*  
Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*[CW p180]*

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be used.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is  
followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

**Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*This post communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

Almighty God,  
you have given your only Son to be for us

1 both a sacrifice for sin  
2 and also an example of godly life.  
3 give us grace  
4 that we may always most thankfully receive  
5 these his inestimable gifts,  
6 and also daily endeavour to follow  
7 the blessed steps of his most holy life;  
8 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p392]

11 *All may say this prayer*  
12 **God of our pilgrimage,**  
13 **you have fed us with the bread of heaven.**  
14 **Refresh and sustain us**  
15 **as we go forward on our journey,**  
16 **in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

[BAS(Canada)]

19 ***The Dismissal***

21 *A hymn may be sung.*

23 **Responsory**

25 *This responsory may be used.*

27 This is love, not that we loved God,  
28 **but that he loved us and sent his Son.**  
29 He is the sacrifice for our sins,  
30 **that we might live through him.**  
31 If God loves us so much  
32 **we ought to love one another.**  
33 If we love one another  
34 **God lives in us.**

cf 1 John 4.12 [New Patterns G50]

37 **Dismissal Gospel**

39 *This Dismissal Gospel may be used*

41 Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
42 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

44 Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in  
45 the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on  
46 his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours,  
47 saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there  
48 will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who  
49 need no repentance.

Luke 15.4-7

1 This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

3  
4 **Blessing**

5  
6 *Either of these blessings may be used*

7  
8 May God the Father,  
9 who does not despise the broken spirit,  
10 give to you a contrite heart. **Amen.**

11  
12 May Christ,  
13 who bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
14 heal you by his wounds. **Amen.**

15  
16 May the Holy Spirit,  
17 who leads us into all truth,  
18 speak to you words of pardon and peace. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p 579]

19  
20 And the blessing ...

21  
22 *or*

23 Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
24 to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
25 and the blessing ...

[CW p309]

26  
27  
28 **Dismissal**

29  
30 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
31 **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

32  
33 *or*

34 Go in the joy and peace of Christ.  
35 **Thanks be to God.**

[CW p183]

36  
37  
38 *The ministers and people depart.*

39  
40 **Notes**

41  
42 **1. Liturgical Colour for Lent**

43 The traditional colour is violet, and if possible, this should be different from the imperial purple  
44 used for Advent. Lenten Array, which is unbleached linen, may also be used. Hangings and flowers  
45 should be removed from the worship area, though dry arrangements may be appropriate.

46  
47 **2. When to use the Rite**

48 This service is intended for use on Ash Wednesday, but where necessary it may be used up to the  
49 first Sunday in Lent.

**3. Silence**

The silence during the Liturgy of Penitence is an integral part of the rite and should not be omitted or reduced to a mere pause.

**4. Confession and Absolution**

Other authorized forms of confession and absolution may replace the forms used in this service.

**5. Ash**

The ash used for the Imposition of Ashes may be made from the burnt Palm Crosses of the previous year. Members of the congregation may be asked to return the Palm Crosses to Church on the Sunday before Lent and the Palm Crosses could be burned as part of the activities of Shrove Tuesday. If necessary, other provision may be made.

**6. Imposition of Ashes**

The President may be assisted by others with the imposition of ashes, especially in larger congregations. The ashes may be imposed with the words provided or in silence, or brief personal prayer may be offered.

**7. Dismissal Responsory and Gospel**

The Responsory and the reading of a Dismissal Gospel are optional.

**Seasonal Material**

**Invitations to Confession**

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,  
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

*[CW p308]*

*or*

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,  
though we have rebelled against him.  
Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*[D.Silk: In Penitence and Faith]*

*or*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,  
where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.  
Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation  
into sin.

**Kyrie Confessions**

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
2 and renew a right spirit within me.  
3 Christ, have mercy.  
4 **Christ, have mercy.**  
5  
6 Cast me not away from your presence,  
7 and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
8 Lord, have mercy.  
9 **Lord, have mercy.**

[CW p277]

10  
11  
12 *or*  
13 Wash away all my iniquity  
14 and cleanse me from my sin.  
15 Lord, have mercy.  
16 **Lord, have mercy.**  
17  
18 Against you, you only have I sinned  
19 and done what is evil in your sight.  
20 Christ, have mercy.  
21 **Christ, have mercy.**  
22  
23 Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
24 and renew a steadfast spirit within me.  
25 Lord, have mercy.  
26 **Lord, have mercy.**

[New Patterns B63]

27  
28  
29 *or*  
30 We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love.  
31 fill us with your Spirit.  
32 Lord, have mercy.  
33 **Lord, have mercy.**  
34  
35 We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith.  
36 fill us with your Spirit.  
37 Christ, have mercy.  
38 **Christ, have mercy.**  
39  
40 We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust.  
41 fill us with your Spirit.  
42 Lord, have mercy.  
43 **Lord, have mercy.**

[New Patterns B60]

44  
45

**Gospel Acclamations**

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47

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.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*Psalm 95.7-8 [CW p308]*

*or*  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
Blessed are those who have endured temptation;  
they have stood the test and will receive the crown of life.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*James 1.2*

*or*  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*John 8.12*

*or*  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*Psalm 119.105*

**Intercessions**

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father, saying  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**  
For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church ...  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**  
For the mission of the Church,  
that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel  
to the ends of the earth,  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

1 For those preparing for baptism (and confirmation) ...  
2 and for their teachers and sponsors,  
3 let us pray to the Father.  
4 Lord of compassion,  
5 **in your mercy hear us.**  
6

7 For peace in the world ...  
8 that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow  
9 among nations and peoples,  
10 let us pray to the Father.  
11 Lord of compassion,  
12 **in your mercy hear us.**  
13

14 For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer ...;  
15 for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger;  
16 that they may be relieved and protected,  
17 let us pray to the Father.  
18 Lord of compassion,  
19 **in your mercy hear us.**  
20

21 For those whom we have injured or offended,  
22 let us pray to the Father.  
23 Lord of compassion,  
24 **in your mercy hear us.**  
25

26 For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God,  
27 let us pray to the Father.  
28 Lord of compassion,  
29 **in your mercy hear us.**  
30

31 In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness ...  
32 let us pray to the Father.  
33 Lord of compassion,  
34 **in your mercy hear us.**  
35

36 God our Father,  
37 in your love and goodness  
38 you have taught us to come close to you in penitence  
39 with prayer, fasting and generosity;  
40 accept our Lenten discipline,  
41 and when we fall by our weakness,  
42 raise us up by your unfailing mercy;  
43 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  
44

*[Enriching p1-3]*

45  
46 *or*  
47 We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things  
48 and to give ourselves to him this Lent, saying  
49 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
50 **give us strength and hear our prayer.**  
51

1 Give your Church the courage  
2 to give up her preoccupation with herself  
3 and to give more time to your mission in the world.  
4 (We pray for ...)  
5  
6 May the blood and water flowing from the side of Jesus  
7 bring forgiveness to your people  
8 and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation.  
9 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
10 **give us strength and hear our prayer.**  
11  
12 Give your world the courage  
13 to give up war, bitterness and hatred,  
14 and to seek peace.  
15 (We pray for ...)  
16  
17 May the shoulders of the risen Jesus,  
18 once scourged by soldiers,  
19 bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world.  
20 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
21 **give us strength and hear our prayer.**  
22  
23 Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy  
24 in our families, neighbourhoods and communities.  
25 (We pray for ...)  
26  
27 May the presence of the risen Jesus,  
28 his body once broken and now made whole,  
29 bring peace and direction as we live with one another.  
30 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
31 **give us strength and hear our prayer.**  
32  
33 Give us the courage  
34 to give up our selfishness as we live for others,  
35 and to give time, care and comfort to the sick.  
36 (We pray for ...)  
37  
38 May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch,  
39 and the light of his presence fill their rooms.  
40 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
41 **give us strength and hear our prayer.**  
42  
43 Give us the courage to give up our fear of death  
44 and to rejoice with those who have died in faith.  
45 (Especially we hold ... in our minds.)  
46  
47 May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross,  
48 walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony,  
49 and walk with us and all your Church



1 through death to the gate of glory.  
2 Lord, meet us in the silence,  
3 **give us strength and hear our prayer,**  
4 **here and in eternity. Amen.**

[Enriching p3]

## Introduction to the Peace

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

[CW p308]

## Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

16 God of wisdom,  
17 may the light of your eternal Word,  
18 Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
19 lead us in holiness and guide us to glory;  
20 We ask this in his name.  
21 **Amen.**

[BAS (Canada)\*]

24 *or*  
25 God of mercy and compassion,  
26 your Word calls us home to faith and love.  
27 accept all we offer you this day;  
28 in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

[BAS (Canada)]

31 *or*  
32 God of our journey,  
33 as we walk with you on your path of obedience  
34 sustain on our way and lead us to your glory;  
35 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Prefaces

39 And now we give you thanks  
40 because through him you have given us the spirit of discipline,  
41 that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace.  
42 as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery  
43 with mind and heart renewed.

[CW p308]

45 *or*  
46 And now we give you thanks  
47 because he was tempted in every way as we are,  
48 yet did not sin.  
49 By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil,

1 and to live no longer for ourselves alone,  
2 but for him who died for us and rose again.

[Enriching p6]

3  
4  
5 *or*

6 And now we give you thanks  
7 because each year you give us this joyful season  
8 when we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery  
9 with mind and heart renewed.  
10 You give us a spirit of loving reverence for you  
11 and of willing service to our neighbour.  
12 As we recall the saving acts that give new life in Christ,  
13 you bring the image of your Son to perfection within our hearts.

[Enriching p7]

14  
15  
16 **Extended Preface**

17  
18 It is indeed right and good  
19 to give you thanks and praise,  
20 almighty God and everlasting Father,  
21 through Jesus Christ your Son.  
22 For in these forty days  
23 you lead us into the desert of repentance  
24 that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
25 we may grow in grace  
26 and learn to be your people once again.  
27 Through fasting, prayer and acts of service  
28 you bring us back to your generous heart.  
29 Through study of your holy word  
30 you open our eyes to your presence in the world  
31 and free our hands to welcome others  
32 into the radiant splendour of your love.  
33 As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast  
34 with joyful hearts and minds  
35 we bless you for your mercy  
36 and join with saints and angels  
37 for ever praising you and *saying*:

38 [CW p309]

39 **Blessings and Endings**

40 Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
41 to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;  
42 and the blessing ...

43 [CW p309]

44  
45 *or*

46 God,  
47 who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,  
48 keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;  
49 and the blessing ...

50 [ASB p161]

1 *or*  
2 May God the Father,  
3 who does not despise the broken spirit,  
4 give to you a contrite heart.  
5 **Amen.**  
6  
7 May Christ,  
8 who bore our sins in his body on the tree,  
9 heal you by his wounds.  
10 **Amen.**  
11  
12 May the Holy Spirit,  
13 who leads us into all truth,  
14 speak to you words of pardon and peace.  
15 **Amen.**  
16  
17 And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p579]

**Acclamations**

22 This is love, not that we loved God,  
23 **but that he loved us and sent his Son.**  
24 He is the sacrifice for our sins,  
25 **that we might live through him.**  
26 If God loves us so much  
27 **we ought to love one another.**  
28 If we love one another  
29 **God lives in us.**

*cf 1 John 4.12 [New Patterns G50]*

32 *or*  
33 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
34 **O my God, in you I trust.**  
35 You are the God of my salvation;  
36 **To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**  
37 In you I hope all the day long.  
38 **O my God, in you I trust.**  
39 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,  
40 for they are from everlasting.  
41 **To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;**  
42 **O my God, in you I trust.**

[CW:Daily Prayer]

**Short Passages of Scripture**

47 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not  
48 despise.

*Psalms 51.17*

1 The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*Psalm 103.8*

4 For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel. In returning and rest you shall be saved; in  
5 quietness and in trust shall be your strength.

*Isaiah 30.15*

8 He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the  
9 angels waited on him.

*Mark 1.13*

12 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take  
13 place, and to stand before the Son of Man.

*Luke 21.36*

## 17 **The Way of the Cross**

### 19 **A Brief History**

20 The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion at Passiontide for many centuries  
21 because they enable us to engage actively with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. They  
22 originated when early Christians visited Jerusalem and wanted to follow literally in the footsteps of  
23 Jesus, tracing the path from Pilate's house to Calvary. They would pause for prayer and devotion at  
24 various points. Eventually those pilgrims brought the practice back to their home countries and ever  
25 since then Christians of differing traditions have used this form of devotion.

27 In the late 14th century the Franciscans were given the responsibility for the holy places of  
28 Jerusalem and they erected tableaux to aid the devotion of the visitors. These kinds of images are  
29 now commonplace inside, and occasionally outside, churches.

31 The number of stations has varied immensely through the centuries from as few as five to as many  
32 as thirty-six, but the now traditional number of fourteen was established by Clement XII in 1731 –  
33 nine scriptural stations and a further five based on popular devotion. However, due to the increasing  
34 ecumenical popularity of this devotion there have been attempts to create a wholly Scriptural set on  
35 which to focus.

37 The selection of stations presented here all have their root in the Biblical story of Jesus rather than  
38 drawing on legend or popular, yet unscriptural stories. This development makes the Stations of the  
39 Cross more accessible to all traditions within the Christian Church.

41 The recent emphasis on the unity of the death and resurrection of Jesus has also led to the inclusion  
42 of a fifteenth station – the Resurrection. Though this may be superseded by the emergence of the  
43 Stations of the Resurrection as part of popular devotion, it is strongly suggested that this station be  
44 included, especially if the stations are used outside Lent and Passiontide.

46 Here we offer liturgical resources only for scriptural stations, because those churches which have  
47 non-scriptural tableaux in place will probably have the resources already. Many churches will no  
48 doubt continue to use the fourteen 'traditional' stations because they are determined by the tableaux  
49 that are hung in the churches. For the information of those who may wish to use the 'traditional'  
50 stations they are listed as an appendix after the service, based on a biblical list.

The stations may be used as a focus for personal prayer or as part of a liturgical celebration. In this latter context they have been used either as a whole service in themselves, or a few of the statues have been used in the context of a larger liturgical celebration.

## **Notes**

### **1. Images**

As well as the traditional tableaux around the walls of (or even outside) churches, there are a number of publishers who produce images that can easily be displayed when the Stations are used. There are also ways of representing the stations symbolically: for example, the Agony in the Garden could be represented by a goblet or chalice with wine in it, the betrayal and arrest by a pair of handcuffs etc. At the beginning of the service a large cross could be prominent, or brought in, from which the Gathering and the Conclusion could be led.

### **2. Movement**

Movement is at the heart of this kind of worship. If possible, people should be encouraged to leave their places, move around the building and gather at each station. However, where it is necessary for the congregation to stay in their seats they could be encouraged to turn and face each of the stations.

### **3. Structuring the Service**

The structure of the main part of the service is self explanatory. The Gathering and the Conclusion should always be included. It is not necessary that all the stations be used in one act of worship; a few of them might be used over a number of weeks. It is recommended, however, that the order presented here should be maintained.

### **4. Response**

At the end there is the opportunity to insert an appropriate response. This could be penitence, praise, intercession or some action that is appropriate to the stations selected.

### **5. Music**

Hymns or songs may be added at suitable points. It is traditional to use a verse from the hymn *Stabat Mater* to conclude each station. If this is used it could replace the *Trisagion*.

### **6. Holy Communion**

If the stations are to form part of a service of Holy Communion they form the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Sacrament begins with the Peace. Care should be taken to conform with the requirements of A Service of the Word with a Celebration of Holy Communion (*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, page 25).

**The Way of the Cross**

***The Gathering***

*The ministers enter in silence.*

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

**Amen.**

[CW p167]

Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

*Matthew 16.24*

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

*Ephesians 2.13*

Peace to you, and peace to the people of *name of community*.

*A minister may introduce the service*

Let us pray.

*A brief moment of silence follows.*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death on a cross.  
grant that we may follow the example  
of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

[CW p397]

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

[CW p114]

*First Station: Jesus in agony in the Garden of Gethsemane*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (14.32-36)

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I pray.' He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you entered the garden of fear  
and faced the agony of your impending death:  
be with those who share that agony  
and face death unwillingly this day.  
You shared our fear and knew the weakness of our humanity:  
give strength and hope to the dispirited and despairing.  
To you, Jesus, who sweated blood,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

[CW p114]

*Second Station: Jesus betrayed by Judas and arrested*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (14.43-46)

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under

guard.' So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, 'Rabbi!' and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you were betrayed by the kiss of a friend:  
be with those who are betrayed and slandered and falsely accused.  
You knew the experience of having your love  
thrown back in your face for mere silver:  
be with families which are torn apart by mistrust or temptation.  
To you, Jesus, who offered your face to your betrayer,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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

[CWp114]

*Third Station: Jesus condemned by the Sanhedrin*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (14.55-64)

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, 'We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands".' But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, 'Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?' Jesus said, 'I am; and "you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power", and "coming with the clouds of heaven".' Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?' All of them condemned him as deserving death.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*



**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you were the victim of religious bigotry:  
be with those who are persecuted by small-minded authority.  
You faced the condemnation of fearful hearts:  
deepen the understanding of those who shut themselves off  
from the experience and wisdom of others.  
To you, Jesus, unjustly judged victim,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

[CWp114]

*Fourth Station: Peter denies Jesus*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (14.72)

At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' And he broke down and wept.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, as Peter betrayed you,  
you experienced the double agony  
of love rejected and friendship denied:  
be with those who know no friends and are rejected by society.  
You understood the fear within Peter:  
help us to understand the anxieties of those who fear for their future.  
To you, Jesus, who gazed with sadness at his lost friend,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

1 **Holy God,**  
2 **holy and strong,**  
3 **holy and immortal,**  
4 **have mercy on us.**

[CWp114]

7 *Fifth Station: Jesus judged by Pilate*

9 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
10 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

12 **Reading**

14 A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.14-15)

16 Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So  
17 Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed  
18 him over to be crucified.

20 **Reflection / Meditation**

22 *Reflection or meditation may follow.*

24 **Prayer**

26 Lord Jesus, you were condemned to death for political expediency:  
27 be with those who are imprisoned  
28 for the convenience of the powerful.  
29 You were the victim of unbridled injustice:  
30 change the minds and motivations of oppressors and exploiters  
31 to your way of peace.  
32 To you, Jesus, innocent though condemned,  
33 be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
34 now and for ever.  
35 **Amen.**

37 **Holy God,**  
38 **holy and strong,**  
39 **holy and immortal,**  
40 **have mercy on us.**

[CWp114]

43 *Sixth Station: Jesus scourged and crowned with thorns*

45 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
46 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.17-19)

And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you faced the torment of barbaric punishment  
and mocking tongue:  
be with those who cry out in physical agony and emotional distress.  
You endured unbearable abuse:  
be with those who face torture and mockery in our world today.  
To you, Jesus, the King crowned with thorns,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

[CW p114]

*Seventh Station: Jesus carries the cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.20)

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you carried the cross through the rough streets  
of Jerusalem:  
be with those who are loaded with burdens beyond their strength.  
You bore the weight of our sins when you carried the cross:

1 help us to realize the extent and the cost of your love for us.  
2 To you, Jesus, bearing a cross not your own,  
3 be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
4 now and for ever.  
5 **Amen.**

6  
7 **Holy God,**  
8 **holy and strong,**  
9 **holy and immortal,**  
10 **have mercy on us.**

[CW p114]

11  
12  
13 *Eighth Station: Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus to carry the cross*

14  
15 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
16 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

17  
18 **Reading**

19  
20 A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.21)

21  
22 They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon  
23 of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

24  
25 **Reflection / Meditation**

26  
27 *Reflection or meditation may follow.*

28  
29 **Prayer**

30  
31 Lord Jesus, you were worn down by fatigue:  
32 be with those from whom life drains all energy.  
33 You needed the help of a passing stranger:  
34 give us the humility to receive aid from others.  
35 To you, Jesus, weighed down with exhaustion and in need of help,  
36 be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
37 now and for ever.  
38 **Amen.**

39  
40 **Holy God,**  
41 **holy and strong,**  
42 **holy and immortal,**  
43 **have mercy on us.**

44 [CW p114]  
45

1 *Ninth Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

2  
3 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
4 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

5  
6 **Reading**  
7

8 A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (23.27-28, 31)

9  
10 A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their  
11 breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not  
12 weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when  
13 they will say, "Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never  
14 nursed." Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us." For  
15 if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'  
16

17 **Reflection / Meditation**  
18

19 *Reflection or meditation may follow.*  
20

21 **Prayer**  
22

23 Lord Jesus, the women of Jerusalem wept for you:  
24 move us to tears at the plight of the broken in our world.  
25 You embraced the pain of Jerusalem, the 'city of peace':  
26 bless Jerusalem this day and lead it to the path of profound peace.  
27 To you, Jesus, the King of peace who wept for the city of peace,  
28 be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
29 now and for ever.  
30 **Amen.**  
31

32 **Holy God,**  
33 **holy and strong,**  
34 **holy and immortal,**  
35 **have mercy on us.**  
36

[CWp114]

37  
38 *Tenth Station: Jesus is crucified*  
39

40 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
41 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**  
42

43 **Reading**  
44

45 A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.24)

46  
47 And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each  
48 should take.  
49

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you bled in pain as the nails were driven into your flesh:  
transform through the mystery of your love  
the pain of those who suffer.

To you, Jesus, our crucified Lord,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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

[CW p114]

*Eleventh Station: Jesus promises the kingdom to the penitent thief*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (23.39-43)

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, even in your deepest agony you listened  
to the crucified thief:  
hear us as we unburden to you our deepest fears.  
You spoke words of love in your hour of death:  
help us to speak words of life to a dying world.  
To you, Jesus, who offers hope to the hopeless,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

1 **Holy God,**  
2 **holy and strong,**  
3 **holy and immortal,**  
4 **have mercy on us.**

[CW p114]

7 *Twelfth Station: Jesus on the cross, his mother and his friend*

8  
9 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
10 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

12 **Reading**

14 A reading from the Gospel according to John (19.26-27)

15  
16 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his  
17 mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from  
18 that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

20 **Reflection / Meditation**

22 *Reflection or meditation may follow.*

24 **Prayer**

25  
26 Lord Jesus, your mother and your dearest friend stayed with you  
27 to the bitter end,  
28 yet even while racked with pain you ministered to them:  
29 be with all broken families today  
30 and care for those who long for companionship.  
31 You cared for your loved ones even in your death-throes:  
32 give us a love for one another that is stronger  
33 even than the fear of death.  
34 To you, Jesus, loving in the face of death,  
35 be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
36 now and for ever.  
37 **Amen.**

38  
39 **Holy God,**  
40 **holy and strong,**  
41 **holy and immortal,**  
42 **have mercy on us.**

[CW p114]

45 *Thirteenth Station: Jesus dies on the cross*

46  
47 We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
48 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.34-37)

At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you died on the cross and entered the bleakest  
of all circumstances:  
give courage to those who die at the hands of others.  
In death you entered into the darkest place of all:  
illumine our darkness with your glorious presence.  
To you, Jesus, your lifeless body hanging on the tree of shame,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

[CW p114]

*Fourteenth Station: Jesus laid in the tomb*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (15.46)

Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*



**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, Lord of life, you became as nothing for us:  
be with those who feel worthless and as nothing in the world's eyes.  
You were laid in a cold, dark tomb and hidden from sight:  
be with all who suffer and die in secret,  
hidden from the eyes of the world.  
To you, Jesus, your rigid body imprisoned in a tomb,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

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

[CWp114]

*Fifteenth Station: Jesus risen from the dead*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark (16.4-8)

When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you were dead but now you are alive:  
transform the torments of this world's sin  
that we may see your radiant glory.  
You were raised from death to life:  
may the power of your resurrection live in us,  
that we may be channels of your true life beyond measure.  
To you, Jesus, who has broken free from the bonds of death,  
be honour and glory with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

1 **Holy God,**  
2 **holy and strong,**  
3 **holy and immortal,**  
4 **have mercy on us.**

[CW p114]

**Response**

5  
6  
7  
8  
9 *At this point there may be an appropriate response to the preceding stations. This may be praise,*  
10 *penitence, intercession or some relevant action. This may be accompanied by silence or singing.*  
11

12 Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom  
13 in the words our Saviour taught us.

14  
15 *The Lord's Prayer is said.*  
16

17 Most merciful God,  
18 who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
19 delivered and saved the world:  
20 grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
21 we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
22 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
23 who is alive and reigns with you,  
24 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
25 one God, now and for ever.

26 **Amen.**

[CW p396]

**Conclusion**

27  
28  
29  
30  
31 *One of the following responsories is used*  
32

33 You are worthy, O Christ, for you were slain;  
34 for by your blood you ransomed men for God.  
35 from every race and language, from every people and nation,  
36 to make them a kingdom of priests  
37 to stand and serve before our God.

38 **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,**  
39 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**  
40

41 To him who loves us  
42 and has freed us from our sins by his blood,  
43 and made us a kingdom of priests  
44 to stand and serve before our God;

45 **To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb**  
46 **be praise and honour, glory and might,**  
47 **for ever and ever. Amen.**

48 *or*

49 **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,**  
50 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**  
51

1 Christ was manifested in the body,  
2 vindicated in the spirit,  
3 seen by angels,  
4 proclaimed among the nations,  
5 believed in throughout the world,  
6 glorified in high heaven.  
7  
8 **We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,**  
9 **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**  
10  
11 The Lord be with you.  
12 **And also with you.**  
13  
14 May Almighty God bless you,  
15 the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
16 **Amen.**  
17  
18 *The ministers depart in silence.*

## **The Way of the Cross: the 'Traditional' Stations**

1. Pilate condemns Jesus to die
2. Jesus accepts his cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets his mother
5. Simon helps Jesus carry the cross
6. Veronica offers her veil to Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus speaks to the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus is placed in the tomb

A further station depicting the Resurrection of Jesus may be added.

# Passiontide and Holy Week

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Structure  
Rite  
Notes

## Introduction to the Season

It is still uncertain when Christians first began to make an annual (as opposed to a weekly) memorial of the death and resurrection of Christ. This *Pascha* (a word derived indirectly from *pesach*, Hebrew ‘Passover’) was at first a night-long vigil, followed by the celebration of the eucharist at cock-crow, and all the great themes of redemption were included within it – incarnation, suffering, death, resurrection, glorification. Over time, the *Pascha* developed into the articulated structure of Holy Week and Easter. Through participation in the whole sequence of services, the Christian shares in Christ’s own journey, from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to the empty tomb on Easter morning. The procession with palms, which was already observed in Jerusalem in the fourth century, is accompanied by the reading or singing of the Passion Narrative, in which the whole story of the week is anticipated. Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, ‘commandment’, because of the use of John 13.34 in the Antiphon) contains a rich complex of themes: humble Christian service expressed through Christ’s washing of his disciples’ feet, the institution of the eucharist, the perfection of Christ’s loving obedience through the agony of Gethsemane.

After keeping vigil (“Could you not watch with me one hour?”) Thursday passes into Good Friday with its two characteristic episodes. The veneration of the Cross is older; the sequence of meditations and music known as the Three Hours’ Devotion began in the nineteenth century. The first is now sometimes incorporated into the structure of the second. There is not now usually a celebration of the eucharist on Good Friday; instead, consecrated bread and wine remaining from the Maundy Thursday eucharist are given in communion. The church remains stripped of all decoration. It continues bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without a liturgy. there can be no adequate way of recalling the being dead of the Son of God, other than silence and desolation. But within the silence there grows a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as the Easter Vigil draws near.

In a sense, the liturgical sequence of Holy Week speaks for itself. This solemn season preserves some of the oldest texts still in current use, and rehearses the deepest and most fundamental Christian memories. But the passion narrative also gained its fixed form at a time of great tension between Jews and Christians, and it was all too easy for the prayers and ceremonies of Holy Week, and especially of Good Friday, to be coloured by anti-Jewish feeling. Those who lead the keeping of Holy Week today have a heavy responsibility, both to be faithful to the act of collective memory, and to be sensitive to the damage to which a careless use of the inherited readings and prayers can lead.

## Seasonal Material

### Invitations to Confession

God shows his love for us  
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*[CW p312]*

*or*

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,  
so that, free from sins,  
we might live for righteousness;  
by his wounds we have been healed.  
Let us confess our sins.

*1 Peter 2.24*

### Kyrie Confessions

O God, you know my foolishness.  
and my sins are not hidden from you.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Let not the flood overwhelm me  
nor the depths swallow me up.  
let not the pit shut its mouth upon me.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Hear me, O Lord, as your loving kindness is good.  
turn to me as your compassion is great.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*or*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess we have failed you as did your disciples.  
We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease  
rather than watch with you.  
Lord, forgive us.  
**Christ have mercy.**

When we bestow a kiss of peace  
yet nurse enmity in our hearts.  
Lord, forgive us.  
**Christ have mercy.**



When we strike at those who hurt us  
rather than stretch out our hands to bless.  
Lord, forgive us.  
**Christ have mercy.**

When we deny that we know you  
for fear of the world and its scorn.  
Lord, forgive us.  
**Christ have mercy.**

*[New Patterns B45\*]*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and given him the name that is above every name.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*Philippians 2.8-9 [CW p312]*

### **Intercession**

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession  
through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

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

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**



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

**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.

**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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

*[LHWE p83-84\*]*

*or*

Let us pray to the Father through his Son  
who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption.

Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church ...  
Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing  
to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bless those who lead the Church's worship at this solemn time ...  
In the preaching of the word  
and the celebration of the sacraments  
draw your people close to you.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Strengthen those (among us) who are preparing for baptism,  
together with their teachers, sponsors and families ...  
Teach them what it means to die and rise with Christ  
and prepare them to receive the breath of his Spirit.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**



Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much  
that you sent your Son to suffer and to die ...

Strengthen those who work to share  
the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ  
to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice ...

Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying,  
to find strength in the companionship of Jesus,

and in his passion to know their salvation.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**Lord, save us and help us.**

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world  
in your friendship ...

According to your promises,

bring them with all your saints to share

in all the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

**Lord, save us and help us.**

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

*[Enriching p23-24\*]*

*or*

Let us pray to the Father,  
who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son  
to give us life.

Simon from Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for your Son.

Give us grace to lift heavy loads from those we meet

and to stand with those condemned to die.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes.

Transform the hearts of those who make a profit from their victims,

and those whose hearts are hardened by their work.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

The thief, who was crucified with Jesus, was promised a place in your kingdom

Give pardon and hope, healing and peace

to all who look death in the face.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

From the cross Jesus entrusted Mary his mother  
and John his disciples to each other's care.  
Help us also to care for one another  
And fill our homes with the spirit of your love.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

In Mary and John your Son created a new family at the cross.  
Fill our relationships, and those of new families today,  
    with mutual care and responsibility,  
and give us a secure hope for the future.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

The centurion was astonished to see your glory  
    in the crucified Messiah.  
Open the eyes of those who do not know you  
    to see in your Son the meaning of life and death.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph of Arimathaea came to take your Son's body away.  
Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved,  
    and gentleness to those who minister to them.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Simon and Joseph, Mary and John  
became part of your Church in Jerusalem.  
Bring into your Church today a varied company of people,  
to walk with Christ in the way of his passion  
and to find their salvation in the victory of his cross.

Lord of the Church,  
**hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you in Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*[Enriching p24-26]*

## **Introductions to the Peace**

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
    through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

*Ephesians 2.13 [CW p312]*

*or*

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

[CW p290]

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion.  
make us perfect in your love.  
**Amen.**

### **Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
because, for our salvation,  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

[CW p312]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because for our sins he was lifted high upon the cross,  
that he might draw the whole world to himself;  
and, by his suffering and death,  
became the source of eternal salvation  
for all who put their trust in him.

[CW:President's p583]

### **Extended Preface**

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draw near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and *saying*.

[CW p313]





## Blessings and Endings

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p313]

*or*

May the Father,  
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.

**Amen.**

May Christ,  
who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.

**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
that we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing...

## Short Passages of Scripture

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow?

*Lamentations 1.12*

Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies,  
it bears much fruit.

*John 12.24*

God forbid that I should boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which  
the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

*Galatians 6.14*

## The Liturgy of Palm Sunday

### *Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem*

*When all are ready one of these anthems may be said or sung.*

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*or*

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord.**

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,  
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.  
Ride on in the cause of truth  
and for the sake of justice.  
Your throne is the throne of God, it endures  
for ever;  
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a  
righteous sceptre.  
You have loved righteousness and hated evil.  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord.**

[LHWE p76]

### **The Greeting**

*The President greets the people.*

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

[CW p167]

*The president introduces the celebration using these or other appropriate words.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*The people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said by the president*

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah  
to suffer and to die;  
let these palms be for us signs of his victory  
and grant that we who bear them in his name  
may ever hail him as our King,  
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

[LHWE p77]

## The Palm Gospel

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

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

## The Procession

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*During the procession all hold palms or branches, and appropriate hymns, psalms, or anthems are sung.*

## *The Celebration of the Holy Communion*

### The Collect

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

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross.  
grant that we may follow the example  
of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p397]

*or*

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah.  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

[CW:Collects p31]

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

### **The Passion Reading**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and given him the name that is above every name.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

*[CW p312]*

*When the Passion is announced the reader says*  
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

*At the end*  
This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made.*

### **Sermon**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*This form or other suitable words may be used.*

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father  
through Christ the saviour of the world.

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

**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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**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.

**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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Trisagion may be used*

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

[LHWE p83-84]

## ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### **The Peace**

*The President may introduce the Peace with these words.*

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

*[CW p312]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*At the preparation of the table this prayer may be said.*

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion.  
make us perfect in your love. **Amen.**

*[CW p175]*

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers with either of these proper prefaces.*

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draw near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge  
his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and *saying*.

[CW p313]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because for our salvation  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

[CW p312]

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*  
Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup.  
**We proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*The president says*  
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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*or*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

[CW p180]





*The president and people receive communion. The following or other authorized words of distribution are used.*

The body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

[CW p295]

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The post communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation.  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

[CW p397]

*All may say*

**Faithful God,  
may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

[BAS (Canada)\*]

### **The Dismissal**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The president may use this seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing*

May the Father,  
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.  
**Amen.**

May Christ,  
who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.  
**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
that we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

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

*or*

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

## Resources for a Chrism Eucharist

### Historical Note

When Peter acknowledged Jesus as “the Christ” (Mark 8.29), he was recognising him as the “Anointed One” of God: *Christos* in Greek, *Messiah* in Hebrew. The title that had once belonged to the anointed kings of Israel is now conferred on Jesus, who was anointed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at his baptism in the river Jordan (*cf* Acts 10.38). As Jesus received baptism at John’s hands, his true identity was revealed.

“Manifest at Jordan’s stream,  
Prophet, priest and king supreme.”

Our own baptism is the sacramental sign of our union with Christ, and of God’s gift to us of his Holy Spirit, to make us God’s children by adoption and grace, and to equip us for the share that all Christians have in Christ’s own ministry. The New Testament speaks of this gift of the Holy Spirit as an anointing (1 John 2.20-27; 2 Cor. 1.21-22). From an early date, it became customary to trace the sign of the cross in oil on the heads of candidates for baptism, and to anoint them again after baptism with the perfumed oil of chrism – a sign of incorporation into the prophetic, priestly and royal life of Jesus Christ. At the same time, the Letter of James urges its recipients to anoint the sick with oil (James 5.15), as a sign of the healing and forgiveness that are also given through the Holy Spirit (*cf.* Mark 6.13). These are the biblical roots of the ancient custom of using oils in the life of the Church, and of the three particular oils – of Catechumens, of the Sick, and of Chrism – that are prepared in the Chrism Eucharist. They have come to be used in many ways – especially, as in the Old Testament, for the setting apart of people and things for a special place in the life of the Church, for bishops and priests at their ordination, for kings and queens at their crowning, and for churches and altars at their consecration.

There is a more recent custom, introduced first into the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Paul VI in the mid-twentieth century, that the Chrism Eucharist is also an occasion for the renewal of commitment to ministry. As the priests gathered around their bishop on Maundy Thursday, to receive the oils to take back to their parishes, he suggested that they should renew their commitment to serve Christ. This is appropriate on this day, when we remember that Christ consecrated himself to his Father’s service and expressed his obedient self-gift in the institution of the eucharist and in the agony of Gethsemane, and prayed for the unity of his disciples. It is now a widespread Anglican practice for deacons, Readers, and authorized lay ministers to be associated with the bishop and priests in the renewal of commitment to ministry. It is important to distinguish this renewal, which has to do with the commitment of authorized ministers (lay or ordained) to particular and defined ministries in the life of the Church, from the renewal of the commitment of all God’s people to the royal and priestly ministry they have received in baptism. This second renewal, which is theologically prior to the first, properly takes place in the reaffirmation of baptismal promises at the Easter Liturgy (*see page 00*).

## Greeting

Jesus Christ has made us a kingdom of priests  
to serve his God and Father.

**Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.**

Grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

## Prayers of Penitence

Come, let us return to the Lord and say.

**Lord our God,  
in our sin we have avoided your call.  
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Have mercy on us;  
deliver us from judgement; and heal us;  
bind up our wounds and revive us;  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*[CW p128]*

The Lord enrich you with his grace,  
and nourish you with his blessing;  
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;  
the Lord accept your prayers,  
and absolve you from your offences,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
**Amen.**

*[CW p136]*

## Collect

Heavenly Father,  
who anointed your Son Jesus Christ  
with the Holy Spirit and with power  
to bring to the world the blessings of your kingdom:  
anoint your Church with the same Holy Spirit,  
that we who share in his suffering and his victory  
may bear witness to the gospel of salvation;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[ASB p555\*]*

**Year A**

1 Samuel 3.1-10  
Psalm 133  
Revelation 1.5b-8  
Luke 7.36-50

**Year B**

1 Samuel 16.1-13a  
Psalm 89.19-30  
2 Corinthians 3.17- 4.12  
Luke 22.24-30

**Year C**

Isaiah 61.1-9  
Psalm 23  
James 5.13-16a  
Luke 4.16-21

**Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**The Renewal of Commitment to Ministry (A)**

*The following order is designed for occasions when ordained and lay ministers renew their commitment on the same occasion, but replying severally to the questions.*

*Bishop*

My brothers and sisters, at his Last Supper, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another, and he prayed that they might be one. He gave them an everlasting sign of his own love, in the sacrament of bread and wine. He consecrated himself to his Father's service, to be the high priest of the New Covenant. I invite you now to dedicate yourselves afresh to his service, as stewards of the mysteries of God, and ministers of his grace.

*The Bishop addresses the Lay Ministers*

When you were commissioned, you undertook to be faithful in prayer, and by word and example to minister to those for whom Christ died. Will you do all that is in your power to witness to God's love for his people?

*Lay Ministers*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*The Bishop addresses the Deacons*

At your ordination as a deacon, you received the yoke of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, to build up God's people in his truth, and serve them in his name?

*Deacons*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*The Bishop addresses the Priests*

At your ordination to the priesthood, you took authority to watch over and care for God's people, to absolve and bless them in his name, to proclaim the gospel of salvation, and to minister the sacraments of his New Covenant. Will you continue as faithful stewards of the mysteries of God, preaching the Gospel of Christ, ministering his holy sacraments?

*Priests*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*A lay person addresses the bishop(s)*

At your ordination as bishop(s) you received the gift of the Spirit, that you might lead the Church in mission, and send out ministers in Christ's name; that you might promote its unity, uphold its discipline, and guard its faith; and that you might teach and govern the people committed to your charge. Will you continue faithfully in this ministry, watching over Christ's own flock, and building them up in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace?

*The bishop*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*The lay person addresses all the ministers*

May the God of peace sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
He who calls you is faithful, and he will accomplish it.

*All*

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

*The people stand, and the bishop addresses them.*

My brothers and sisters, pray for all who minister, that they may be constant in prayer and steadfast in faith, and serve your people with joy.

**Lord, hear us.**

Pray for your deacons, that the Lord may pour upon them the riches of his grace. Pray that he who has called them to his service may make them worthy of his calling.

**Lord, hear us.**

Pray for your priests. Ask the Lord to bless them with the fullness of his love, that they may be faithful ministers of his word and sacrament, and lead his people in the way of salvation.

**Lord, hear us.**

Pray for your bishop(s), that despite our unworthiness *we* may be faithful to the great trust that has been handed to us. Pray that *we* may become more like our Good Shepherd and great High Priest, the teacher and servant of us all, and so become more and more a sign of Christ's loving presence among you.

**Lord, hear us.**

Pray for the families of those who minister, for their homes, and for all with whom they share their lives.

**Lord, hear us.**

May the Lord in his love keep us ever close to him, and may he bring us all to the fullness of eternal life.

**Amen.**

## **The Renewal of Commitment to Ministry (B1)**

*The following order is intended for occasions when ordained ministers renew their commitment. It may be used by priests and bishop alone, or by priests and deacons speaking their part together.*

*The Bishop addresses the Priests (and Deacons)*

My brothers and sisters, at his Last Supper, our Lord Jesus Christ gave his disciples a new commandment, that they should love one another, and he prayed that they might be one. He gave them an everlasting sign of his own love, in the sacrament of bread and wine. He consecrated himself to his Father's service, to be the high priest of the New Covenant. I invite you now to dedicate yourselves afresh to his service, as stewards of the mysteries of God, and ministers of his grace.

At your ordination you accepted the yoke of Christ for love of the Lord and his Church. Are you resolved to unite yourself more closely to Christ and to become more like him, joyfully sacrificing your own pleasures and ambitions to bring his peace and love to your brothers and sisters?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

With the example of the Lord who washed his disciples' feet, will you be faithful in serving the needs of others and diligent in caring for those in need and trouble, in strengthening the faithful and in searching out the indifferent and the lost?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

Will you fashion your life according to the pattern of Christ, that you may be a true pastor, by word and example, to the people among whom you serve?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

Will you work in partnership with all whom the Lord has given you, and encourage all the baptized to grow as the royal priesthood of the new covenant?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

Will you be a faithful minister of the mysteries of God by leading the worship of his people with devotion and care and by teaching the Christian faith with conviction and joy?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

Will you continue in the way of Christ, the head and shepherd of the Church of God, whose grace is sufficient to meet your need?

*Priests (and deacons)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*A lay person addresses the bishop(s).*

Reverend Father(s) in God, will you be faithful to the promise you made at your consecration to uphold the truth of the gospel?

*Bishop(s)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you promote unity, peace and love among all Christian people, especially in this diocese, and to be diligent in prayer and the reading of the holy scriptures?

*Bishop(s)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

Will you strive to become more like our High Priest and Good Shepherd, the Teacher and Servant of all, and so to be an authentic sign of Christ's loving presence among us?

*Bishop(s)*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*The Bishop addresses the congregation*

My brothers and sisters, pray for your bishops, priests and deacons. Ask the Lord to bless us with the fullness of his love, that we may be faithful servants of Christ, our great high priest, serving the Church with gifts that encourage and equip the people of God, and make Christ known in our generation.

*All*

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
hear us and answer our prayer.**

*Bishop*

Almighty God, who has given us the will to undertake all these things, give us also the strength to perform them, that he may complete that work which he has begun in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A Form for the Renewal of Diaconal Commitment (B2)**

*This form is intended to be used with Form B1 above. In this case, the priests and bishops renew their commitment in Form B1, and the deacons renew their commitment immediately before the reading of the Gospel, using the present Form.*

*Bishop*

At your ordination as a deacon, you received the yoke of Christ, who took the form of a servant, coming to serve and not to be served, so that in your ministry Christ's example to his Church as



the servant of all might be proclaimed.

Will you continue faithfully in the ministry of building up God's people in his truth and of serving them in his name?

*Deacons*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

Will you continue to proclaim in deed and word the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour?

*Deacons*

**By the help of God, I will.**

*Bishop*

The Lord be in your heart and on your lips  
that you may truly and faithfully proclaim his holy gospel;  
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **The Renewal of Commitment to Ministry (C)**

*This form is intended for use when a variety of ministers renew their commitment to ministry in a single prayer. It is based on the Methodist Covenant Service.*

*Bishop*

My brothers and sisters, Christ has many services to be done. Some are easy, others are difficult; some bring honour, others bring reproach; some conform to our natural inclinations and material interests, others are contrary to both. In some, we may please Christ and please ourselves, in others we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. Yet the power to do all these things is given in Christ who strengthens us.

Let us pray.

God our Father, in our baptism you made us witnesses to the death and resurrection of your Son. Send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, as we take upon us the yoke of your obedience. Make us instruments of your peace, and doers of your perfect will.

**God our Father,  
in the name of Christ and in the power of your Spirit,  
we commit ourselves to you and one another,  
to live, work, and pray as one body in Christ,  
to trust each other as fellow workers in your Church,  
and to give ourselves with body, mind, and spirit  
to the ministries to which you have called us.  
Give us vision, give us courage, and give us joy,  
that the world may believe that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to your eternal glory. Amen.**

*Bishop*

May God, who has moved us to make this commitment, give us grace to keep it to the end.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Introduction to the Peace

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us,  
and as a pledge of what is to come  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

*[New Patterns H27]*

## Prayer over the Oils

*President*

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ  
**who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing.**

*A Deacon*

The oil for the anointing of the sick and dying.

*President*

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
Your Word brought light out of darkness,  
and daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth.  
Your anointed Son brought healing  
to those in weakness and distress.  
He broke the power of evil and set us free from sin and death  
that we might praise your name for ever.  
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest  
on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;  
may they be made whole in body, mind and spirit,  
restored in your image, renewed in your love,  
and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*A Deacon*

The oil for the signing with the cross at baptism.

*President*

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
the protector of all who believe in you.  
Your anointed Son overcame the powers of evil  
when he was lifted high upon the cross.  
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest  
on those who are anointed with this oil in your name;  
as they come to the waters of baptism  
may it be for them a sign of your defence in their fight  
against sin, the world and the devil,  
and bring them to share in Christ's victory.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*A Deacon*

The oil of chrism.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God and Eternal Father,  
upholding by your grace all who hear your call.  
Under your Old Covenant  
priests and kings were anointed to serve you  
and in the fullness of time you anointed your Son by the Holy Spirit  
to be the Christ, the Saviour and Servant of all.  
By the power of your Spirit may your blessing rest  
on those who are anointed with this chrism in your name;  
let it be for them a sign of joy and gladness  
as they share in the royal priesthood of the New Covenant  
and make known the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
we lift our voices of thanks and praise.  
**Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Pour upon the poverty of our love  
and the weakness of our praise  
the transforming fire of your presence. **Amen.**

**Preface**

And now we give you thanks  
because by your Holy Spirit  
    your anointed your only Son to be the servant of all  
and ordained that he should enter  
    into his kingdom through suffering.  
In your wisdom and love you call your Church to serve the world,  
to share Christ's suffering and to reveal his glory.

*[CW President's p585]*

**Extended Preface**

It is indeed right and good  
always and everywhere to give you thanks  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
By the outpouring of your Holy Spirit  
you anointed him to be the servant of all  
and ordained that he should enter  
into your kingdom through suffering.  
And now he stands by us and pours out for our healing  
the oil of consolation and the wine of renewed hope.  
In your wisdom and love you anoint your holy people  
to be a royal priesthood,  
to share in Christ's suffering

and to reveal his glory to the world.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven to sing a new song  
of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end.

### **Prayers after Communion**

Good Shepherd  
you have welcomed us at your table and  
have anointed us with the oil of gladness  
may your goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life  
that we may dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **Amen.**

**You have opened to us the scriptures, O Christ,  
and you have made yourself known  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Abide with us, we pray,  
that, blessed by your royal presence,  
we may walk with you  
all the days of our life,  
and at its end behold you  
in the glory of the eternal Trinity,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**who has made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
**now and for ever. Amen.**

*[CW:Initiation p111]*

The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,  
cleanse you by his holiness  
and send you to proclaim his word. **Amen.**

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace. **Amen.**

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,  
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[Enriching p217]*

## Notes

1. The bishop presides at the Chrism Eucharist.
2. The hymn *Gloria in Excelsis* may be used at this service.
3. The oil used in the ministry of the Church is pure olive oil. It is customary for perfume and balsam to be added to the Oil of Chrism, to give it a sweet smell.
4. It is appropriate for the oils to be carried by deacons, who may be vested in distinct colours: purple for the Oil of the Sick, green for the Oil of Baptism, and white for the Oil of Chrism.
5. In the renewal of commitment to ministry, where it is provided that distinct questions should be put to the bishop(s), these are best put by a person who can represent the whole people of the diocese. This is ideally a lay person, who is not commissioned to any particular and authorized ministry within the Church.
6. A rite is provided on p00 for the public reception of the newly blessed oils into a parish church on Maundy Thursday. They may then be used in the baptisms and confirmations of Eastertide, and in the ministry of the church throughout the year.

## The Reception of Holy Oils During the Liturgy of Maundy Thursday

*The oils are blessed by the bishop at a diocesan celebration at some time convenient during Holy Week between Palm Sunday and the beginning of the Triduum. Resources for this service are provided above (p00).*

*The oils may be received into the parish on Maundy Thursday at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Last Supper.*

*The oils may be carried by three ministers in the entrance procession. After the Greeting, the ministers may present the oils and the President may speak briefly of their significance in the life of the Church. Sample texts are provided below. The oils are then taken to the place set apart for their reservation and the liturgy continues with the Prayers of Penitence.*

### *President*

Brothers and sisters,  
on this most holy night we enter into the three days  
of the celebration of our Lord's paschal victory,  
his death and resurrection.  
Those of our community who are to be baptised this Eastertide  
will be made one with Christ,  
dying to sin and rising to newness of life in him.  
As we begin, therefore, we receive from our bishop N,  
the holy oils blessed  
and set apart for the sacramental life of our parish.

*Minister*

The oil of the sick.

*President*

By the laying on of hands and anointing with this oil,  
and with the prayerful support of this community,  
may those who are sick experience the healing presence of Christ.

**Amen.**

*Minister*

The oil of baptism.

*President*

Anointed with this oil,  
and assisted by the example of this community,  
may those who are to be baptized  
know that Christ calls them by name  
and makes them his own  
and shares with them his victory over sin and the power of evil.

**Amen.**

*Minister*

The oil of Chrism

*President*

Anointed with this fragrant oil,  
may all who are baptized and confirmed,  
all who are ordained to the service of God's people,  
and this community whose house of prayer  
    is dedicated to God's glory,  
fill the world with the sweet fragrance of Christ's gospel  
and be built up as living stones into a temple  
    filled with the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday**

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung.*

### **The Greeting**

*The president greets the people.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

*[CW p314]*

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

## **Prayers of Penitence**

*A minister uses this Invitation to Confession or other suitable words*

Our Lord Jesus Christ says.

‘If you love me, keep my commandments.’

‘Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.’

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love,  
and ask him to cleanse us.

*[CW p314]*

*This or another authorized Confession is used.*

Have mercy on us, O God,  
in your great goodness;  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out our offences.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Against you only have we sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean;  
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The president uses this or another authorized absolution.*

The Lord, who is faithful and just forgive us our sins  
create and make in us a clean heart  
and renew a right spirit within us  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

*[New Patterns B77]*

*The Kyrie Eleison or the Trisagion may be used.*

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

**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.**

*[CW p171]*

## **The Collect**

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

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes.  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[CW p398]*

*or*

God our Father,  
your Son Jesus Christ was obedient to the end  
and drank the cup prepared for him.  
may we who share his table  
watch with him through the night of suffering  
and be faithful. **Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p32]*

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

## **Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

## The Gospel Reading

*This acclamation may herald the gospel reading.*  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.  
I give you a new commandment, says the Lord.  
Love one another as I have loved you.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.**

[CW p314]

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

[CW p172]

## Sermon

## The Washing of Feet

*The President may wash the feet of some members of the congregation.*  
*The anthem Ubi Caritas in this or another translation, a hymn, an anthem or a psalm may be sung during the washing of feet.*

*God is love, and where true love is, God himself is there.*

Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling;  
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be his greeting;  
Let us all revere and love him, God eternal.  
Loving him, let each love Christ in all his brothers.  
*God is love,...*

When we Christians gather, members of one Body,  
Let there be in us no discord, but one spirit;  
Banished now be anger, strife and every quarrel.  
Christ our God be present always here among us.  
*God is love,...*

Grant us love's fulfilment, joy with all the blessed  
When we see your face, O Saviour, in its glory;  
Shine on us, O purest Light of all creation,  
Be our bliss while endless ages sing your praises.  
*God is love,...*

[James Quinn SJ (NEH 512)]

*The washing of feet may end with this prayer.*  
Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you.  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p397]

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*This form or other suitable words may be used.  
Silence may be kept before each versicle and response.*

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father  
through Christ the saviour of the world.

Father,  
on this, the night he was betrayed,  
your Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples' feet.  
We commit ourselves to follow his example of  
love and service.  
Lord, hear us  
**and humble us.**

On this night, he prayed for his disciples to be one.  
We pray for the unity of your Church.  
Lord, hear us  
**and unite us.**

On this night, he prayed for those who were to  
believe through their message.  
We pray for the mission of your Church.  
Lord, hear us  
**and renew our zeal.**

On this night, he commanded them to love,  
but suffered rejection himself.  
We pray for the rejected and unloved.  
Lord, hear us  
**and fill us with your love.**

On this night, he reminded them that if the  
world hated them it hated him first.  
We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith.  
Lord, hear us  
**and give us your peace.**

On this night, he accepted the cup of death  
and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.  
We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Lord, hear us  
**and welcome all your children into paradise.**

[LHWE p88-89\*]

### ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

#### **The Peace**

*The president may introduce the Peace with these words.*  
Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.'

[CW p314]

*The President says*  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

#### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*These words may be used at the preparation of the table.*  
At the eucharist we are with our crucified and risen Lord.  
We know that it was not only our ancestors,  
but we who were redeemed  
and brought forth from bondage to freedom,  
from mourning to feasting.  
We know that as he was with them in the upper room  
so our Lord is here with us now.  
**Until the kingdom of God comes**  
**let us celebrate this feast.**

[LHWE p190-191]

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe,  
you bring forth bread from the earth.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of the universe,  
you create the fruit of the vine.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers with either of these proper prefaces.*

It is truly right to give you thanks,  
it is fitting to give you glory,  
Father most holy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For on this night he girded himself with a towel  
and taking the form of a servant  
washed the feet of his disciples.  
He gave us a new commandment  
that we should love one another as he has loved us.  
Knowing that his hour had come,  
in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples  
to be a memorial of his passion,  
that we might proclaim his death until he comes again,  
and feast with him in his kingdom.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end.

[CW p315]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because, having loved his own who were in the world,  
he loved them to the end;  
and on the night before he suffered,  
sitting at table with his disciples,  
he instituted these holy mysteries,  
that we, redeemed by his death  
and restored to life by his resurrection,  
might be partakers of his divine nature.

[CW p314]

## The Lord's Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*  
Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup.  
**We proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

*Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

## Giving of Communion

*The president says*  
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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*or*  
Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

[CW p180]

*The president and people receive the communion. The following or other authorised words of distribution are used.*

The body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

[CW p295]

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.*

*The post communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament  
you have given us the memorial of your passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries  
of your body and blood  
that we may know within ourselves  
and show forth in our lives  
the fruit of your redemption,  
for you are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p398]

## The Stripping of the Sanctuary

*The holy table and the sanctuary may be stripped bare. During the stripping, Psalm 88 may be used, or another psalm, or these or other verses from the Book of Lamentations may be used.*

How lonely sits the city that once was full of people!  
How like a widow she has become,  
she that was great among the nations!  
She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks;  
among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her.  
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals;  
all her gates are desolate, her priests groan;  
her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter.  
Her children have gone away, captives before the foe.  
Is it nothing to you all you who pass by?  
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow.  
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

From on high he sent fire; it went deep into my bones;  
he spread a net for my feet; he turned me back;  
he has left me stunned, faint all day long.  
For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears;  
for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage;  
my children are desolate, for the enemy has prevailed.  
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

All those who pass along the way clap their hands at you;  
they hiss and wag their heads at daughter Jerusalem;  
'Is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty,  
the joy of all the earth?'  
The thought of my affliction and homelessness  
is wormwood and gall.  
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning; great is his faithfulness.  
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,  
'therefore I will hope in him.'  
The Lord is good to those who wait for him,  
to the soul that seeks him.  
**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.  
It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth,  
to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it,  
to put one's mouth to the dust (there may yet be hope),  
to give one's cheek to the smiter, and be filled with insults.  
For the Lord will not reject for ever.



**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God.**

**The Watch**

*A Watch may be kept.*

*If the Watch is to be kept there may be a procession and a hymn or psalm may be sung. The order of readings found in the Sequence of Readings for the Watch may be used.*

*Silences, introduced by biddings, may follow the readings.*

**The Dismissal**

*If the Watch is not kept, the dismissal is said. This form may be used.*

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed to the Father, 'If it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me'. He said to his disciples, 'How is it that you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour? The hour has come for the Son of Man to be handed over to the power of sinners.'

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in his peace.

*The ministers and people depart.*

*[LHWE p194]*

***Sequence of Readings for the Watch***

John 13.16-30  
Psalm 113

John 13.31-38  
Psalm 114

John 14.1-14  
Psalm 115

John 14.15-end  
Psalm 116.1-9

John 15.1-17  
Psalm 116.10-end

John 15.18 - 16.4a  
Psalm 117

John 16.4b-15  
Psalm 118.1-9

John 16.16-end  
Psalm 118.10-18

John 17.1-19  
Psalm 118.19-end

John 17.20-end

*Then may follow Psalm 54 and the Gospel Reading of the Watch*

[LHWE p195]

*or The Gospel of the Watch is read without ceremony, followed by silence.*

Year A        Luke 22.31-62  
Year B        Matthew 26.30-end  
Year C        Mark 14.26-end

[LHWE p295]

## **The Liturgy of Good Friday**

### ***The Gathering***

*The ministers enter in silence.*

*All may kneel for a time of silent prayer.*

### **Collect**

*All stand and the president says this collect*

Almighty Father,  
look with mercy on this your family  
for which our Lord Jesus Christ  
    was content to be betrayed  
    and given up into the hands of sinners  
    and to suffer death upon the cross;  
who is alive and glorified  
    with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p399]

*or*

Eternal God,  
in the cross of Jesus  
we see the cost of our sin  
and the depth of your love.  
in humble hope and fear  
may we place at his feet  
all that we have and all that we are,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW:Collects p33]

### ***The Liturgy of the Word***

**Old Testament Reading**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah (52.13 - 53.12)

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is kept.*

**Psalm 22**

**New Testament Reading**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10.16-58 or 4.14-16; 5.7-9)

*At the end the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Silence is kept.*

*A canticle or a hymn may be used.*

**The Passion Reading**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. (18.1 - 19.42)

*At the end.*

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*Silence is kept.*

*A sermon may be preached.*

***The Proclamation of the Cross***

*The Proclamation of the Cross may occur after the Prayers of Intercession.*

*A wooden cross may be brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people.*

*As the cross is carried in, the procession may stop three times and one of the following vesicles and responses may be said or sung.*

The cross of Christ

**The cross on which the Saviour of the world was hung.**

*or*

This is the wood of the cross

on which hung the Saviour of the world.

**Come let us worship.**

## Advent

*Appropriate devotions may follow, which may include any or all of the following or other suitable anthems. Traditionally the hymn 'Crux Fidelis' is also sung.*

*Version 1*

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?  
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow  
which was brought upon me,  
which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

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

O my people, O my Church,  
What have I done to you,  
or in what have I offended you?  
Testify against me.  
I led you forth from the land of Egypt,  
and delivered you by the waters of baptism,  
but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

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

I led you through the desert forty years,  
and fed you with manna.  
I brought you through tribulation and penitence,  
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,  
but you prepared a cross for your Saviour.

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

What more could I have done for you  
that I have not done?  
I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,  
I made you the branches of my vine;  
but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink,  
and pieced with a spear the side of your Saviour.

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

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,  
and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate.  
I scourged your enemies and brought you  
to a land of freedom,  
but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me.  
I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,

but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

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

I gave you a royal sceptre,  
and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,  
but you have given me a crown of thorns.  
I raised you on high with great power,  
but you have hanged me on the cross.

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

My peace I gave, which the world can not give,  
and washed your feet as a sign of my love,  
but you draw the sword to strike in my name,  
and seek high places in my kingdom.  
I offered you my body and blood,  
but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

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

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you,  
and you close your hearts to the Counsellor.  
I pray that all may be one in the Father and me,  
but you continue to quarrel and divide.  
I call you to go and bring forth fruit,  
but you cast lots for my clothing.

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

I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel,  
and you turned on them with persecution  
and mass murder.  
I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants,  
but you made them scapegoats for you own guilt.

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

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;  
I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,  
naked and you did not clothe me,

sick and in prison and did not visit me.



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

*[Ashes to Fire Supplemental Worship Resources 8, (Abingdon, 1979) as in BAS (Canada)]*

**Version 2**

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I am your Creator, Lord of the universe;  
I have entrusted this world to you,  
but you have created the means to destroy it.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I made you in my image,  
but you have degraded body and spirit  
and marred the image of your God.  
You have deserted me and turned your backs on me.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I filled the earth with all that you need,  
so that you might serve and care for one another,  
as I have cared for you;  
but you have cared only to serve your own wealth and power.

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

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I made my children of one blood  
to live in families rejoicing in one another;  
but you have embittered the races  
and divided the nations.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I commanded you to love your neighbour as yourself,  
to love and forgive even your enemies;  
but you have made vengeance your rule  
and hate your guide.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

In the fullness of time I sent you my Son,  
that in him you might know me,  
and through him find life and peace;  
but you put him to death on the cross.

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

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

Through the living Christ, I called you into my Church  
to be my servants to the world,  
but you have grasped at privilege  
and forgotten my will.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I have given you a heavenly gift  
and a share in the Holy Spirit;  
I have given you the spiritual energies  
of the age to come;  
but you have turned away  
and crucified the Son of God afresh.

*My people, what wrong have I done to you?  
What good have I not done for you?  
Listen to me.*

I have consecrated you in the truth;  
I have made you to be one  
in the unity of the Father and the Son,  
by the power of the Spirit;  
but you have divided my Church  
and shrouded my truth.

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,**

**holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

*Turn again, my people, listen to me.*

Let your bearing to one another  
arise out of your life in Christ Jesus.  
He humbled himself  
and in obedience accepted the death of the cross.  
But I have bestowed on him  
the name that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus,  
every knee should bow  
and every tongue confess,  
Jesus Christ is Lord.

*Turn again, my people, listen to me.*

**Father, hear our prayer and forgive us.**

**Unstop our ears**  
**that we may receive the gospel of the cross.**  
**Lighten our eyes**  
**that we may see your glory**  
**in the face of your Son.**  
**Penetrate our minds**  
**that your truth may make us whole.**  
**Irradiate our hearts with your love**  
**that we may love one another for Christ's sake.**

**Father, forgive us.**

*[LHWE p207-210]*

## **Anthem 2**

You are worthy, O Christ, for you were slain;  
for by your blood you ransomed men for God.  
from every race and language,  
from every people and nation,  
to make them a kingdom of priests  
to stand and serve before our God.

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,**  
**because by your holy cross you have**  
**redeemed the world.**

To him who loves us  
and has freed us from our sins by his blood,  
and made us a kingdom of priests  
to stand and serve before our God;

**To him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb**  
**be praise and honour, glory and might,**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

*[LHWE p211]*



**Anthem 3**

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

Christ was manifested in the body,  
vindicated in the spirit,  
seen by angels,  
proclaimed among the nations,  
believed in throughout the world,  
glorified in high heaven.

**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

[LHWE p211]

**Anthem 4**

**We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and praise you for your mighty resurrection;  
for by virtue of your cross  
joy has come into our world.**

God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
That your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.  
*Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.*  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad,  
for you will judge the peoples righteously  
and govern the nations upon earth.  
*Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.*  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, our own God, will bless us.  
God will bless us,  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

[Psalm 67]

**We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and praise you for your mighty resurrection;  
for by virtue of your cross  
joy has come into our world.**

## Acclamations

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
**because by your holy cross you have  
redeemed the world.**

This is the wood of the cross,  
on which hung the Saviour of the world.  
**Come, let us worship.**

O Saviour of the world,  
who by your cross and precious blood have redeemed us.  
**Save us and help us, we humbly pray.**

## The Prayers of Intercession

*This form or other suitable words may be used.*

*The president introduces the prayers.*

God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved through him.  
Therefore we pray to our heavenly Father  
for people everywhere according to their needs.

*A minister continues with these biddings. The President concludes each section with the Collect.*

Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world –  
for unity in faith, in witness and in service  
for bishops and other ministers, and those whom they serve  
for N, our bishop, and the people of this diocese  
for all Christians in this place  
for those to be baptized  
for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith  
that God will confirm his Church in faith,  
increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church  
is governed and sanctified.  
hear our prayer which we offer  
for all your faithful people;  
that in their vocation and ministry  
each may serve you in holiness and truth  
to the glory of your Name;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the nations of the world and their leaders -  
for Elizabeth our Queen and the Parliaments of this land  
for those who administer the law and all who  
serve in public office  
for all who strive for justice and reconciliation  
that by God's help the world may live in peace and freedom.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Most gracious God and Father,  
in whose will is our peace.  
turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself,  
that by the power of your Spirit  
the peace which is founded on justice  
may be established throughout the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's ancient people, the Jews,  
the first to hear his word -  
for greater understanding between Christian and Jew  
for the removal of our blindness and bitterness of heart  
that God will grant us grace to be faithful to his covenant  
and to grow in the love of his name.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God of Abraham,  
bless the children of your covenant, both Jew and Christian;  
take from us all blindness and bitterness of heart,  
and hasten the coming of your kingdom,  
when the Gentiles shall be gathered in,  
all Israel shall be saved,  
and we shall dwell together in mutual love and peace  
under the one God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ –  
for those who have not heard the message of salvation  
for all who have lost faith  
for the contemptuous and scornful  
for those who are enemies of Christ  
and persecute those who follow him  
for all who deny the faith of Christ crucified  
that God will open their hearts to the truth  
and lead them to faith and obedience.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.



**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful God,  
creator of all the people of the earth,  
have compassion on all who do not know you,  
and by the preaching of your Gospel with grace and power,  
gather them into the one fold of the one Shepherd;  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all those who suffer –  
for those who are deprived and oppressed  
for all who are sick  
for those in darkness, in doubt and in despair,  
in loneliness and in fear  
for prisoners, captives and refugees  
for the victims of false accusations and violence  
for all at the point of death and those who watch beside them  
that God in his mercy will sustain them  
with the knowledge of his love.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
the comfort of the sad, the strength of those who suffer;  
hear the prayers of your children who cry out of any trouble.  
and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief,  
and refreshment,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commend ourselves and all God's children  
to his unfailing love,  
and pray for the grace of a holy life,  
that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ,  
we may come to the fullness of eternal life  
and the joy of the resurrection.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,  
look favourably on your whole Church,  
that wonderful and sacred mystery.  
By the effectual working of your providence,  
carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation.  
Let the whole world see and know  
that things which were cast down are being raised up,  
and things which had grown old are being made new,  
and that all things are being brought to their perfection

by him through whom all things were made,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;

who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[BAS(Canada)\*]

*The service may be concluded here with the form provided in the Conclusion.*

### ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

*The holy table is covered with a fair linen cloth.*

*If Holy Communion is to be distributed the consecrated elements are placed on the holy table in silence.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom  
in the words our Saviour taught us.

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

*Before the distribution the president says*  
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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*or*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

[CW p180]

*The president and people receive communion. The following or other authorised words of distribution are used.*

The body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen.**  
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

[CW p295]

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

## **The Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The service may conclude with one of the following prayers without a blessing or dismissal.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the living God,  
set your passion, cross,  
    and death between your judgement and us,  
    now and at the hour of our death.  
Give mercy and grace to the living,  
rest to the faithful departed,  
to your holy Church peace and concord,  
and to us sinners eternal life and glory;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*or*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[LHWE\*]

*The ministers depart in silence.*

## **The Conclusion**

*If there is to be no Liturgy of the Sacrament, the service ends as follows.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom  
in the words our Saviour taught us.

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

*The service may conclude with one of the following prayers without a blessing or dismissal.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the living God,  
set your passion, cross,  
    and death between your judgement and us,  
    now and at the hour of our death.  
Give mercy and grace to the living,  
rest to the faithful departed,

to your holy Church peace and concord,

and to us sinners eternal life and glory;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*or*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world.  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The ministers depart in silence.*

### ***Alternative Conclusion***

*Whether there has been a Liturgy of the Sacrament or not, after the concluding prayer the Gospel of the Burial of Christ (John 19.38-42) is read and the wooden cross used in The Proclamation of the Cross may be carried out. If this conclusion is used the Passion Reading earlier in the service should end at John 19.37.*

# The Easter Liturgy

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## Introduction

From earliest times Christians have gathered through the night of Easter Eve to recall the story of God's saving work, from creation through to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. However, the Easter Liturgy is not merely a presentation of God's work. It is meant to be a real experience of new life for the worshipper, a passing from darkness to light which offers hope to all the faithful. It is therefore important that the preparation is prayerful and thorough.

## Three Patterns

### *Pattern A*

The earliest Christian observance of Easter consisted of a vigil of watching and waiting, fasting and prayer, that lasted through the hours of darkness. Because the vigil began after evening prayer when, as every night, the evening candle was lit, in the Western Church on this particular night this light ceremony was eventually understood as symbolising the return of the light of Christ and the beginning of the Easter celebration. This tradition lies behind the development of Pattern A.

Pattern A begins with the lighting of a new fire from which the Easter Candle is then lit. Here, the resurrection is proclaimed from the outset in the Service of Light. The Easter Candle together with the candles held by the individual worshippers should, if possible, illuminate the Church. This illustrates the way that Christians understand the Old Testament and interpret life itself in the light of the resurrection of Jesus. The history of our salvation in the scriptures is heard in the light of the Easter mystery. The Service of Light reaches its climax with the Easter Proclamation.

The Old Testament Readings from the Vigil Service then follow. We hear the story of our salvation and are invited to reflect our own personal journey in the light of the Easter revelation. The inner dynamics of this service could be drawn out by, for example, lighting a small candle from the Easter Candle after each reading, symbolising the truth that we understand that reading in the light of Easter.

Pattern A essentially uses the Vigil as an extended Liturgy of the Word and contains the same flexibility.

### *Pattern B*

In the earliest forms of Easter Vigil the Old Testament scriptures were read and reflected upon, until the resurrection was proclaimed in the Eucharist at cockcrow. This tradition forms the basis of Pattern B, which follows a storytelling approach.

Pattern B begins with the lighting of a small fire or light by which the story of salvation is read. However, this light is **not** the Easter light and all effort should be made to avoid any confusion with it.

The story of salvation is told through Old Testament Readings selected from the Vigil readings. Each reading adds to the story and a sense of expectation gradually increases until the service reaches its climax in the revelation of the Resurrection.

Pattern B is more effective with a lengthy vigil rather than simply an extended liturgy of the



word. The structure is designed to be flexible and is particularly appropriate if the Easter Liturgy is an all night service when a more informal approach could be adopted. It may be held in a different location such as a church hall or even in the open air by the light of a bonfire.

Pattern B lends itself to an adventurous and creative approach. For example, the Bible readings could be dramatised or enacted, and each reading could be followed by silence, inter-active Bible Study, artistic activity (including the marking of the Easter Candle), discussion, testimony, drama, intercession, singing or whatever is appropriate for the context. Choruses, spiritual songs or appropriate hymnody could replace the Psalm: If the Vigil is to last all night there could be specific points for eating and drinking that are related to the readings, until the climax is reached in the Service of Light and the Easter Eucharist.

Patterns A and B reflect two different developments of the vigil tradition and each has its own particular dynamic and rationale which needs to be understood. Here we provide fully worked out services for both which can be adapted to local circumstances and custom.

If either of these Vigil Patterns is used, it is important to make a conscious decision which one is to be followed. Each of these structures has its own inner logic which makes them completely different services. Careful thought should be given as to which is chosen and why.

#### *A third pattern – a Dawn Service*

In addition to Patterns A and B we also offer a third alternative. In recent years a practice has developed where Christians gather outside at dawn to celebrate the resurrection. These celebrations are usually held at a special place such as a hilltop or a riverside, and consequently demand a more informal treatment than is possible in or outside a Church building. This is the rationale behind the Dawn Service in Appendix H. This is not a fully worked out service but a flexible, outline structure with some resources and suggested ways of celebrating Easter morning.

#### *The Four Main Elements of the Easter Liturgy*

The Easter Liturgy contains four main elements which are intended to form a single whole but may also be celebrated separately, as is shown in the different ways that churches over the years have used and adapted the material.

These elements of lighting the Easter Candle and hearing the scriptures developed into two of the four key constituent parts of the Easter Liturgy, namely the Service of Light and the Vigil of Readings. The other two are the Baptismal Liturgy and the Eucharist, or Holy Communion.

#### **The Vigil**

This is probably the oldest feature of the Easter celebrations. From its earliest times the Church would keep watch through the night and meditate on the mighty works of God. They would pray until the earliest hours of the morning when Christ's resurrection was acclaimed. The Vigil is properly a service for the night and should never begin before sunset on Holy Saturday. The heart of the Vigil is the reading of key passages from Scripture telling of God's saving love. See the Notes to The Easter Vigil of Readings in Appendix A for further guidance.

#### **The Service of Light**

The Service of Light proclaims the resurrection of Christ from the dead in word and action, in silence and sound. The Easter Candle, symbolizing Christ, the light of the world, is lit and carried through the Church and progressively passed to the whole congregation. The Exsultet,

an ancient Easter Song of Praise, is sung as the climax of this liturgy.

### **The Baptismal Liturgy**

The Easter Liturgy is not just one of the Easter services but a major baptismal event, because baptism and Easter have been closely linked from at least the end of the second century. Lent became the period of preparation for entering into the Church's fellowship through baptism at Easter. Candidates entered into the life of Christ's death and resurrection in the midst of the Church's celebration of them. It is therefore appropriate that there should be a celebration of Baptism and/or confirmation on Easter Day, or at the very least, there should be a Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows by the Christian community as a public declaration of their union with Christ in his death and resurrection.

### **The Eucharist**

The celebration of the Eucharist is the proper climax to the Easter Liturgy when we are sacramentally reunited with our risen Lord. The most appropriate time for a celebration of Holy Communion is in the early hours of Easter morning, but if it is celebrated during the night it should be as late as possible, preferably after midnight.

It is important to note that even if there is a non-eucharistic Vigil service that there must be at least one celebration of the Holy Communion in every parish church on Easter Day.

### *Preparing for the Easter Liturgy*

Before we focus our attention on the detail of the Easter celebration we need to ask the fundamental question of how the elements of the Easter celebration are to be presented.

Through the centuries different ways of celebrating these events have developed.

- ¶ Some celebrate the Easter Liturgy as one service throughout the night, beginning on the evening of Holy Saturday and climaxing at dawn.
- ¶ Alternatively, some churches have the Vigil Readings and the Service of Light on the Saturday night, leaving the Baptismal and Eucharistic liturgies to the Sunday morning.
- ¶ Others gather on the Saturday evening or before dawn for a short Vigil, leaving the rest of the Liturgy to be celebrated later in the day.
- ¶ Yet others keep the Easter ceremonies for the main service on Easter Sunday morning, omitting the Vigil altogether.
- ¶ As has been pointed out above, some relocate the worship to some other significant place in or around the community.

However our Easter celebrations are structured and conducted, all possible variations derive from the one Easter Liturgy, which needs to be seen as a whole even if it is celebrated in distinct stages.

Recently many churches have recognized that the main service on Easter morning sees the largest all-age congregation of the year and want to take account of this in their planning. For those who conclude that the mid-morning service should be non-eucharistic we offer a worked-out plan for a Service of the Word for Easter using some elements from the Easter ceremonies. However, we should note that there must be at least one celebration of the Holy Communion in each Parish Church on Easter Day.

## **The Easter Liturgy: Pattern A**

### Service of Light followed by Vigil Readings

#### *Structure*

#### **The Service of Light**

- Marking of the Easter Candle (optional)
- The lighting of the Easter Candle
- Presentation of the candidates (optional)
- The Exsultet

#### **The Vigil**

- Introduction to the readings
- Old Testament readings
- The Easter Acclamation
- Gloria in Excelsis or hymn
- The Collect
- New Testament reading
- Psalm (optional)
- Gospel reading
- Sermon

#### **The Liturgy of Initiation**

- Decision (optional)
- Signing with the cross (optional)
- Prayer over the water (optional)
- Profession of faith (optional)
- Baptism (optional)
  - Declarations (optional)
- Confirmation (optional)
  - Affirmation of baptismal faith (optional)
  - Reception into the Communion of the Church of England (optional)
- Corporate Re-affirmation of baptismal vows
- Welcome (optional)

#### **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

- Peace
- Preparation of the Table
  - and taking of the Bread and Wine
- The Eucharistic Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
- Breaking of the Bread
- Giving of Communion
- Prayer after Communion

#### **The Dismissal**

- Blessing
- Giving of A Lighted Candle (optional)
- Dismissal

## Notes

### **The Place**

According to local circumstances, the Vigil may be kept in a different place from the rest of the Easter Liturgy. If there is a crypt that might be particularly appropriate.

### **Silence**

Silence is an important aspect of the waiting and should form a key element during the Vigil readings, even if it is to be informal in nature. Silence should also be observed at the points prescribed in the rubrics for the celebration of Holy Communion in Common Worship.

### **Lighting of the building**

During the Vigil the building should be lit by the Easter Candle and the candles held by the individual participants. If possible no other lights should be used. It is desirable for the building to be as dark as possible during the Vigil. If possible, the Easter Candle should illuminate the place from which the Bible is read during the Vigil, or the lights surrounding that place should be lit directly from the Easter Candle.

### **Marking the Easter Candle**

*This may take place at the beginning of the Service of Light before the prayer 'Christ yesterday and today...'. See Appendix G for instructions about marking the Easter Candle.*

### **The Lighting of the Taper for the Easter Candle**

According to ancient tradition, the light for the Easter Candle was taken from newly kindled fire and not from an already existing source of light. It may also be brought in from a vestry or another adjoining room. Whatever fire or taper is used it should not be possible to confuse it with the Easter Candle.

If the Easter Candle is to be lit from a newly kindled fire the Easter Liturgy could begin outside the Church building.

### **Lighting the Easter Candle**

Where possible, the ministers should go to the entrance of the Church without passing through the building itself. If a fire is lit outside the building, it is desirable for the people not to remain inside the building but to gather around the fire and to follow the ministers in the procession into the church.

### **The Easter Candle**

This should be placed in a prominent position from Easter Day until Pentecost, and it is traditional for it to be lit at all principal services during this period. It should also be used at Baptism and may be used at Funerals throughout the year. Where a number of different congregations come together to celebrate the Easter Liturgy, only one Easter Candle should be used. If it is desired to take Easter Candles back to other churches, they may be lit from the first candle at the end of the service and carried in procession out of the building. See Appendix D.

### **Candles**

Small, unlit candles should be distributed to members of the congregation before the service begins. These will be lit from the Easter Candle during the Service of Light. They should be extinguished during the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis when the Church lights are illuminated. They may be lit again for the Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows.



### **When to say the Easter Acclamation**

The Easter Acclamation should not be used before the Exsultet. It may be said or sung, and repeated as many times as desired, with gradually increasing volume. It may be used on any appropriate occasion from that point onwards.

### **Noise, music and light**

After the Easter Acclamation the joy of the resurrection is properly demonstrated by noise, bells, music, waving etc. This may continue into and through the singing of Gloria in Excelsis. It may also be suitable for such noise to accompany the acclamations after the Gospel reading.

It is however inappropriate for bells to be rung before the Easter Liturgy or for organ music to be used until after the Easter Acclamation. If possible, bells should be rung at the end of the service.

### **The Readings**

A wide variety of possible readings has been provided. Unless it is intended that the Vigil should last right through the night it is suggested that an appropriate selection may be made according to the length of time available. See the Notes to The Easter Vigil of Readings in Appendix A.

It is desirable that the reading from Genesis 1 be used. The Exodus 14 reading should always be used.

### **The Vigil Responses and Collects**

If this pattern is followed the christological responses collects should be used during the sequence of readings, as each Scripture passage, read by the light of the Easter Candle, is understood in the light of who Christ truly is.

### **The Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows**

After the Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows the congregation may be sprinkled with the newly blessed water, or individuals may be invited to approach the Font and use the water to make the sign of the cross, as a reminder of their own baptism.

This may also be incorporated within other services on Easter Day, in accordance with the directions in the main volume of *Common Worship*.

### **The Baptismal Liturgy**

If there are candidates for Baptism and/or Confirmation, the Liturgy of Baptism and/or Confirmation should be woven into the fabric of the whole Easter Liturgy.

The Presentation of the Candidates should take place at the beginning of the Service of Light but the decision and signing with the cross should wait until after the presentation of God's work in history and the Easter proclamation. It most appropriately happens after the sermon.

If possible, the candidates for Baptism should not be allowed into the Church beyond the Font until after they are baptized.

For clarity the whole text of the Baptismal Liturgy from the Sermon through the Peace, and the Giving of the Lighted Candle have been included in the Rite. Those elements which only apply if there is a baptism have been indented.

### **The Blessing of the Water of Baptism**

Water for Baptism may be blessed before the Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows.

### **Intercession**

Intercessions, especially for the newly baptized and confirmed, may be said; or, the names of the newly baptized and confirmed might be mentioned in Eucharistic Prayer G.

The Prayer of Humble Access may be used immediately prior to the Giving of Communion.

### **Liturgical Colour**

White or gold.

## **The Easter Liturgy: Pattern A**

### ***The Service of Light***

*The building being in darkness, the ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle.*

*All stand and face the ministers. The president says*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
on this most holy night,  
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,  
the Church invites her children throughout the world  
to come together in vigil and prayer.  
This is the Passover of the Lord.  
We remember his death and resurrection  
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,  
confident that we shall share his victory over death  
and live with him for ever in God

*The new fire may be kindled. One of these prayers may be used.*

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light.  
set us aflame with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

[LHWE p229]

*or*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.  
to you be glory and praise forever.  
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens  
and your faithfulness never ceases.  
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom  
and strengthen our lives with your word,  
for you are the fountain of life;  
in your light we see true light.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**



*The Easter Candle may be marked here. (See Appendix G for guidance on marking the Easter Candle.)*

Christ yesterday and today,  
the beginning and the end,  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him,  
and all ages;  
to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever.

**Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds  
may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

**Amen.**

*The president lights the Easter Candle, saying*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*The minister bearing the candle enters the building, followed by the other ministers, and they pause just inside the entrance.*

*The minister bearing the candle raises it and says or sings*

Christ our light.

**Thanks be to God.**

*If there are candidates for Baptism they are presented at this point. (See Common Worship: Initiation Services p105)*

*The procession of the Easter Candle moves further into the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated, and the candles of those around are lit from the Easter Candle.*

*The procession continues to the centre of the building and stops once more. The versicle and response are again repeated, and the candles of those around are lit.*

*The Easter Candle is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit.*

## **Exsultet**

*Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) may be said or sung by a minister standing near the candle.*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
O Universe, dance around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!  
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation  
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!  
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!  
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!  
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

*Alternatively, the Introduction could be sung by the whole congregation to a tune of the meter 10.10.10.10 using the following form. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

**Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!**  
**Around God's throne exult in harmony!**  
**Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!**  
**Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!**  
**The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!**  
**Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!**  
**The night is past. the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult your joy outpoured!**  
**The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!**  
**Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!**  
**Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

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 right and good that with hearts and minds and voices  
we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God,  
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who has saved us by his death,  
paid the price of Adam's sin,  
and reconciled us once again to you.  
**[Glory to you for ever.]**

For this is the Passover feast,  
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain  
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.  
**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when you first saved our ancestors,  
freeing Israel from her slavery  
and leading her safely through the sea.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when Jesus Christ vanquished hell,  
broke the chains of death  
and rose triumphant from the grave.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when all who believe in him are freed from sin,  
restored to grace and holiness,  
and share the victory of Christ.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* that gave us back what we had lost;  
beyond our deepest dreams  
you made even our sin a happy fault.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Most blessed of all nights / *Crowning glory of all feasts* \*!    *\*said/sing during the day*  
Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,  
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Night / *Feast* truly blessed when hatred is cast out,  
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth  
and all creation reconciled to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy  
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.  
Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;  
Christ is risen from the dead  
    and his flame of love still burns within us!  
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!  
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!

**Amen.**

*Other responses maybe used. These might include*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Lord reigns.**

*However, responses using 'Alleluia!' should not be used until after the Easter Acclamation*

*Other forms of the Exsultet with congregational sung participation can be found in Appendix E*

## ***The Vigil***

*A Hymn may be sung during which lights are taken from the Easter Candle to illuminate the Bible from which the Vigil readings will be taken*

*The president may introduce the Vigil using these or other appropriate words.*

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer; and let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

*Any of the readings suggested in Appendix A (with or without the accompanying psalms and prayers) or other suitable passages of Scripture may be used.*

## **The Easter Acclamation**

*The minister says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise be made.*

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*Gloria in Excelsis is used, or an appropriate hymn, during which all the candles in the Church are lit, lights are switched on and the people's candles extinguished.*

## **The Collect**

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

*A period of silent prayer is kept*

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him.  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

*or*

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell.  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned,  
and the way to life stand open  
in our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

## **New Testament Reading**

*Romans 6. 3-11*

*At the end the reader may say*  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm**

*A Psalm may be said or sung (Appendix A)*

*The minister may say*  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel reading**

*Either of these acclamations may herald the Gospel reading.*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead  
**Alleluia!**  
He has defeated the powers of death  
**Alleluia!**  
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing  
**Alleluia!**  
He has the words of eternal life.  
**Alleluia!**

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*[CW p316]*

*When the gospel is announced the reader says*  
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

*Testimony by individuals or groups may be given here or at some other appropriate point.*

### ***The Liturgy of Initiation***

*A hymn may be sung. If there are candidates for baptism, together with the minister, they gather at the place of baptism.*

*The minister addresses the candidates and those who wish to Re-affirm their Baptismal Vows*

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask.

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

*[CW p353]*

### **Signing With The Cross**

*The minister or another minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying*

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

*The minister may invite their sponsors to sign the candidates with the sign of the cross.*

*When all the candidates for baptism have been signed, the minister says to them*

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ**

**against sin, the world and the devil,**

**and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

*The minister says*

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

[CW p354]

**Prayer over the water**

*The president says*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ  
was baptized in the river Jordan.  
we thank you for the gift of water  
to cleanse us and revive us.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

We thank you that through the waters  
of the Red Sea  
you led your people out of slavery  
to freedom in the promised land.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

We thank you that through the deep waters  
of death  
you brought your Son,  
and raised him to life in triumph.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

Bless this water, that your servants  
who are washed in it  
may be made one with Christ in his death  
and in his resurrection,  
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,  
bring them to new birth in the household of faith,  
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;  
for all might, majesty, authority,

and power are yours,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

[CW p367]

*The people reaffirm then their Profession of Faith together with the candidates for Baptism.*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
And he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

[CW p356]

## **Baptism**

*The minister may address each candidate for baptism by name, saying*

*N, is this your faith?*

*and candidates answer in their own words, or*

**This is my faith.**



*The minister or another minister dips each candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying*

N, I baptize you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people  
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.  
**Amen.**

[CW p357]

### **Affirmation**

*This Affirmation may be made*

*The minister may then say to those in the congregation who wish to re-affirm their commitment to Christ*

I call upon those who are affirming their baptismal faith to renew their commitment to Jesus Christ.

*They respond*

**I answer the call of God my creator.  
I trust in Jesus Christ as my Saviour.  
I seek new life from the Holy Spirit.**

[CW:Initiation p110]

*Hymns or songs may be sung as the waters of baptism are sprinkled over the people.  
Alternatively, each member of the congregation may be invited to renew their commitment to Christ by going to the water and making the sign of the cross with it on their forehead.*

*The president says*

Almighty God,  
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith  
with all who have been baptized in your name.  
Keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

[CW:Initiation p111]

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,  
that you may be rooted and grounded in love  
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## The Welcome

*The minister may address the newly baptized*

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.  
*N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.  
**We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

[CW p361]

*The congregation may greet the newly baptized.*

## ***The Liturgy of the Eucharist***

### 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. Alleluia.

[CW p316]

Alleluia!  
The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**and also with you. Alleluia!**

*These words may be added*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words  
Christ is risen.*

## Preparation of the Table

### Taking of the Bread and Wine

*A hymn may be sung. If the people have gathered at the place of baptism they should now move to gather around the Holy Table.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*One of these prayers at the preparation of the table may be said*

*Lord, of life,  
with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.  
As we are fed with the bread of heaven  
may we know your resurrection power;*

*through Christ our risen Lord. Amen*

or

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.  
**Amen.**

[CW p292]

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*An authorized Eucharistic Prayer is used.*

### *Short Preface*

But chiefly are we bound to praise you  
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.  
For he is the true paschal lamb  
    who was offered for us,  
and has taken away the sin of the world.  
By death he has destroyed death,  
and by rising to life again he has restored to us  
    everlasting life.

[CW p316]

### *Extended Preface for use with Eucharistic Prayers A, B and E*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and on this night of our redemption  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women  
    the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels  
    and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

## Breaking of the Bread

*These words may be used at the breaking of the consecrated bread.*

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.**

*The president invites the people to communion, saying*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

[CW p180]

## Prayer after Communion

*The president says*

God of Life,  
who for our redemption  
gave your only-begotten Son  
to the death of the cross,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of our enemy.  
grant us so to die daily to sin,  
that we may evermore live with him  
In the joy of his risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

[CW p400]

## *The Dismissal*

## Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The president says either*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well pleasing  
in his sight;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p317]

*or*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead  
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave  
has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J84]*

### **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The minister or another person may give all candidates a lighted candle. These candles may be lit from the candle used at the Decision.*

*When all have received a candle, the minister says*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*[CW p363]*

*A minister says*

With the risen life of Christ within us  
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **The Easter Liturgy: Pattern B**

### **Vigil Readings followed by Service of Light**

## **Structure**

#### **The Vigil**

- Lighting the fire / the lights by which the readings are seen.
- Bidding
- Presentation of the candidates (optional)
- Readings, psalms and prayers

#### **The Service of Light**

- Marking of the Easter Candle (optional)
- The lighting of the Easter Candle
- The Exsultet
- The Easter greeting
- Gloria in Excelsis or hymn
- The Collect
- New Testament reading
- Psalm (optional)
- Gospel reading
- Sermon

#### **The Liturgy of Initiation**

- Decision (optional)
- Signing with the cross (optional)
- Prayer over the water (optional)
- Profession of faith (optional)
- Baptism (optional)
- Declarations (optional)
- Confirmation (optional)
- Affirmation of baptismal faith (optional)
- Reception into the Communion of the Church of England (optional)
- Corporate Re-affirmation of baptismal vows
- Welcome (optional)
- Peace

#### **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

- Preparation of the Table
  - and taking of the Bread and Wine
- The Eucharistic Prayer
- The Lord's Prayer
- Breaking of the Bread
- Giving of Communion
- Prayer after Communion

#### **The Dismissal**

- Blessing
- Giving of A Lighted Candle
- Dismissal

## Notes

### The Place

The Vigil Readings should, where possible, be read in a place other than the church. This may be a hall, a crypt or outside gathered around a bonfire. The congregation could then move outside for the lighting of the new fire and the Easter Candle, then processing into a dark church behind the Easter Candle.

### Lighting for the Vigil Readings

This structure begins with the lighting of something that provides illumination for the reading of the Scriptures which follow. This could be a small bonfire, or an oil lamp, or a small electric light, possibly coloured. This lighting should be as diffuse as possible as it is desirable for the building to be as dark as possible during the Vigil. It is desirable for the place where the readings are to be heard to be as dark as possible.

If a fire is lit for the purpose of providing light for the Old Testament Scriptures to be read, this should be the fire which is later blessed in the Service of Light and from which the Easter Candle is lit. If possible, the lighting of two fires should be avoided.

It is important that this light by which the Old Testament Scripture are read should not be confused with the lighting of the new fire or the Easter Candle which is to be used later.

If the Service of Readings is to stand alone, all lights should be extinguished at the end, or may be put out gradually during the reading of the Passion Narrative, where this is included.

### The Readings

A wide variety of readings has been provided. Unless it is intended that the Vigil should last right through the night, it is suggested that an appropriate selection may be made according to the length of time available. See the Notes to the Vigil Readings on p00.

It is desirable that the reading from Genesis 1 be read. Exodus 14 should always be used. If the Vigil Readings stand alone as a service, it may end with the reading of part or all of one of the narratives of the Passion (pp. 00-00) during or after which all the lights may be extinguished.

### The Vigil Prayers

If this pattern is followed the 'Blessed are you ...' prayers, introduced by the biddings, should be used during the sequence of readings.

### Silence

Silence is an important aspect of the waiting and should form a key element of the Vigil Readings, even if the service is to be informal in nature. Silence should also be observed at the points prescribed in the rubrics for the celebration of Holy Communion in Common Worship.

### Marking the Easter Candle

This may be done as an activity at some point during the Vigil readings. Alternatively it may take place at the beginning of the Service of Light before the prayer 'Christ yesterday and today...'. See Appendix G for instructions about marking the Easter Candle.

### The Lighting of the Taper for the Easter Candle

According to ancient tradition, the light for the Easter Candle was taken from newly kindled fire and not from an already existing source of light. Therefore, if possible, the taper used to light the Easter Candle should be lit from whatever light has been used to illuminate the Bible for the Vigil readings. It may also be brought in from a vestry or another adjoining room. Whatever fire or taper is used it should not be possible to confuse it with the Easter Candle.

### **The Easter Candle**

This should be placed in a prominent position from Easter Day until Pentecost, and it is traditional for it to be lit at all principal services during this period. It should also be used at Baptism and may be used at Funerals throughout the year. Where a number of different congregations come together to celebrate the Easter Liturgy, only one Easter Candle should be used. If it is desired to take Easter Candles back to other churches, they may be lit from the first candle at the end of the service and carried in procession out of the building.

### **Candles**

Small, unlit candles should be distributed to members of the congregation either before the Vigil or before the Service of Light. These will be lit from the Easter Candle in the course of the service, and should be extinguished during the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis when the Church lights are illuminated. They may be lit again for the Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows.

### **When to use the Easter Acclamation**

The Easter Acclamation should be used for the first time *after* the Exsultet. It may be said or sung, and repeated as many times as desired, with gradually increasing volume. It may be used at any appropriate time from that point onwards in the service.

### **Noise, music and light**

After the Easter Acclamation the joy of the resurrection is properly demonstrated by noise, bells, music, waving etc. This may continue into and through the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis. It may also be suitable for such noise to accompany the acclamations after the Gospel reading.

It is not appropriate for bells to be rung before the Easter Liturgy or for organ music to be used until after the Easter Acclamation. If possible bells should be rung at the end of the service.

### **The Baptismal Liturgy**

If there are candidates for Baptism and/or Confirmation, the Liturgy of Baptism and/or Confirmation should be woven into the fabric of the whole Easter Liturgy.

Normally the Presentation of the Candidates should take place before the Vigil of Readings and the decision and signing of the cross should take place after the Easter proclamation. It most appropriately happens after the sermon.

For clarity the whole text of the Baptismal Liturgy from the Sermon through the Peace, and the Giving of the Lighted Candle have been included in the Rite. Those elements which only apply if there is a baptism have been indented.

Alternatively, if the Baptismal Liturgy may be interwoven with the marking of the Easter Candle it follows this order.

The candle is marked with the Alpha and Omega and the prayer following is said.

The candidates are presented.

The nails are placed in the Candle.

The candle is lit with the appropriate prayer.

The Decision (renunciation) from the Baptismal Liturgy follows.

The signing with the cross and blessing.

A minister says or sing "Christ our Light"

The Exsultet



If possible, throughout this part of the service the candidates for Baptism should not be allowed into the Church beyond the Font.

**The Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows**

After the Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows the congregation may be sprinkled with the newly blessed water, or individuals may be invited to approach the Font and use the water to make the sign of the cross, as a reminder of their own baptism. This may also be incorporated within other services on Easter Day, in accordance with the directions in the main volume of *Common Worship*.

**The Blessing of the Water of Baptism**

Water for Baptism may be blessed before the Re-affirmation of Vows.

**Intercessions**

Intercessions, especially for the newly baptized and confirmed, may be said; or, the names of the newly baptized and confirmed might be mentioned in Eucharistic Prayer G.

The Prayer of Humble Access may be used immediately prior to the Giving of Communion

**Liturgical Colour**

White or gold.

## The Easter Liturgy: Pattern B

### *The Vigil*

*The ministers enter in silence and make ready the lights by which the scriptures are to be read.*

*If the reading of the creation story is not used in the Vigil readings a minister reads these verses.*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

*Genesis 1.1*

*A light is illuminated by which the reading are read.*

*The minister says one of these prayers*

Lighten our darkness,  
Lord, we pray,  
and in your great mercy  
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

*or*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.  
to you be glory and praise forever.  
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens  
and your faithfulness never ceases.  
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom  
and strengthen our lives with your word,  
for you are the fountain of life;  
in your light we see true light.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The president may introduce the Vigil using these or other appropriate words.*

This is the night in which our Lord Jesus Christ passed over from death to life. The Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which through word and sacrament we share in his victory over death.

*If there are candidates for Baptism they are presented at this point. (See Common Worship Initiation Services p105)*

As we await the risen Christ, let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, recalling how he saved his people in ages past and in the fullness of time sent his Son to be our Redeemer. Let us pray that through this Easter celebration God may bring to perfection in each of us the saving work he has begun.

*Any of the readings suggested in Appendix A (with or without the accompanying psalms and prayers) or other suitable passages of Scripture may be used.*

### ***The Service of Light***

*The building being in darkness, the ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle.*

*If a fire has not already been lit, the new fire is lit at this point. If a fire has already been lit around which the congregation has gathered for the Vigil Readings that fire may then be blessed as the new fire from which the Easter candle is lit*

*All stand and face the ministers. The president says*

*One or more of these prayers may be used.*

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light.  
set us aflame with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*If the Easter Candle has not yet been marked during the sequence of Vigil Readings it may be marked here with the Alpha and Omega. (See Appendix G for notes on marking the Easter Candle)*

Christ yesterday and today,  
the beginning and the end,  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him,  
and all ages;  
to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever.

**Amen.**

*Nails or incense studs may be inserted into the Easter Candle.*

By his holy and glorious wounds  
may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

**Amen.**

*The president lights the Easter Candle, saying*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*The minister bearing the candle enters the building, followed by the other ministers, and they pause just inside the entrance.*

*The minister bearing the candle raises it and says or sings*

Christ our light.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The procession moves further into the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated, and the candles of those around are lit from the Easter Candle.*

*The procession continues to the centre of the building and stops once more. The versicle and response are again repeated, and the candles of those around are lit.*

*The Easter Candle is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit.*

### **Exsultet**

*Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) may be said or sung by a minister standing near the candle.*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
O Universe, dance around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!  
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation  
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!  
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!  
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!  
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

*Alternatively the Introduction could be sung by the whole congregation to the tune of the meter 10.10.10.10 using the following form. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

**Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!**  
**Around God's throne exult in harmony!**  
**Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!**  
**Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!**  
**The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!**  
**Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!**  
**The night is past. the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult your joy outpoured!**  
**The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!**  
**Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!**  
**Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

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 right and good that with hearts and minds and voices  
we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God,  
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who has saved us by his death,  
paid the price of Adam's sin,  
and reconciled us once again to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

For this is the Passover feast,  
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain  
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when you first saved our ancestors,  
freeing Israel from her slavery  
and leading her safely through the sea.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when Jesus Christ vanquished hell,  
broke the chains of death  
and rose triumphant from the grave.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* when all who believe in him are freed from sin,  
restored to grace and holiness,  
and share the victory of Christ.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night / *day* that gave us back what we had lost;  
beyond our deepest dreams  
you made even our sin a happy fault.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Most blessed of all nights / *Crowning glory of all feasts* \*!    *\*said/sing during the day*  
Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,  
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Night / *Feast* truly blessed when hatred is cast out,  
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth  
and all creation reconciled to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy  
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.  
Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;  
Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns within us!  
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!  
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!  
**Amen.**

*Other responses maybe used. These might include*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Lord reigns.**

*However, responses using 'Alleluia!' should not be used until after the Easter Acclamation.*

*Other forms of the Exsultet with congregational sung participation can be found in Appendix E.*

### **The Easter Acclamation**

*The minister says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise be made,*

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*Gloria in Excelsis is used, or an appropriate hymn during which all the candles in the Church are lit from the Easter Candle, the house lights switched on and the people's candles extinguished.*

### **The Collect**

Let us pray that we may reign with the risen Christ in glory.

*A period of silent prayer is kept*

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him.  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

*or*

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
You have broken the chains of death and hell.  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned,  
and the way to life stand open  
in our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

[CW:Collects p35]

## New Testament Reading

*Romans 6. 3-11*

*At the end the reader may say*  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*A Psalm may be said or sung (Appendix A)*

*The minister may say*  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

## Gospel reading

*Either of these acclamations may herald the Gospel reading.*

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead  
**Alleluia!**  
He has defeated the powers of death  
**Alleluia!**  
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing  
**Alleluia!**  
He has the words of eternal life.  
**Alleluia!**

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

[CW p316]

*When the gospel is announced the reader says*  
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**



*Testimony by individuals or groups may be given here or at some other appropriate point.*

### ***The Liturgy of Initiation***

*A hymn may be sung. If there are candidates for baptism, together with the minister, they gather at the place of baptism.*

*The minister addresses the candidates and those who wish to re-affirm their Baptismal Vows*

As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that through the paschal mystery we have died and been buried with him in baptism. In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask.

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

[CW p353]

### **Signing With The Cross**

*The minister or another minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate for baptism, saying*

Christ claims you for his own.

Receive the sign of his cross.

*The minister may invite their sponsors to sign the candidates with the sign of the cross.*

*When all the candidates for baptism have been signed, the minister says to them*

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ**

**against sin, the world and the devil,**

**and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

*The minister says*

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**Amen.**

[CW p354]

### **Prayer over the Water**

*The president says*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ  
was baptized in the river Jordan.  
we thank you for the gift of water  
to cleanse us and revive us.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

We thank you that through the waters  
of the Red Sea  
you led your people out of slavery  
to freedom in the promised land.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

We thank you that through the deep waters  
of death  
you brought your Son,  
and raised him to life in triumph.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

Bless this water, that your servants  
who are washed in it  
may be made one with Christ in his death  
and in his resurrection,  
to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

Send your Holy Spirit upon them,  
bring them to new birth in the household of faith,  
and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life;  
for all might, majesty, authority,

and power are yours,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**  
[Saving God,  
**give us life.**]

[CW p367]

*The people reaffirm then their Profession of Faith together with the candidates for Baptism.*

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
And he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

[CW p356]

## **Baptism**

*The minister may address each candidate for baptism by name, saying*

*N, is this your faith?*

*and candidates answer in their own words, or*

**This is my faith.**

*The minister or another minister dips each candidate in water, or pours water on them, saying*

N, I baptize you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people  
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,  
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.  
**Amen.**

[CW p357]

### **Affirmation**

*This Affirmation may be made*

*The minister may then say to those in the congregation who wish to re-affirm their commitment to Christ*

I call upon those who are affirming their baptismal faith to renew their commitment to Jesus Christ.

*They respond*

**I answer the call of God my creator.  
I trust in Jesus Christ as my Saviour.  
I seek new life from the Holy Spirit.**

[CW:Initiation p110]

*Hymns or songs may be sung as the waters of baptism are sprinkled over the people.  
Alternatively, each member of the congregation may be invited to renew their commitment to Christ by going to the water and making the sign of the cross with it on their forehead.*

*The president says*

Almighty God,  
we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith  
with all who have been baptized in your name.  
Keep us faithful to our baptism,  
and so make us ready for that day  
when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

[CW:Initiation p111]

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,  
that you may be rooted and grounded in love  
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **The Welcome**

*The minister may address the newly baptized*

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.  
*N and N*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.  
**We welcome you in the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.**

[CW p361]

*The congregation may greet the newly baptized.*

## ***The Liturgy of the Eucharist***

### **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. Alleluia.

Alleluia!  
The peace of the risen Christ be always with you  
**and also with you. Alleluia!**

[CW p316]

*These words may be added*

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace, greeting one another with these words  
Christ is risen.*

## **Preparation of the Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung. If the people have gathered at the place of baptism they should now move to gather around the Holy Table.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*One of these prayers at the preparation of the table may be said*

*Lord of life,  
with unbounded joy we offer you our sacrifice of praise.  
As we are fed with the bread of heaven  
may we know your resurrection power;*

*through Christ our risen Lord. **Amen***

or

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.  
**Amen.**

[CW p292]

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*An authorized Eucharistic Prayer is used.*

### *Short Preface*

But chiefly are we bound to praise you  
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.  
For he is the true paschal lamb  
    who was offered for us,  
and has taken away the sin of the world.  
By death he has destroyed death,  
and by rising to life again he has restored to us  
    everlasting life.

[CW p316]

### *Extended Preface for use with Eucharistic Prayers A, B and E*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and on this night of our redemption  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in men and women  
    the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels  
    and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

## Breaking of the Bread

*These words may be used at the breaking of the consecrated bread.*

Jesus says, I am the bread of life,  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you;  
give us this bread always.**

*The president invites the people to communion, saying*  
Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

[CW p180]

## Prayer after Communion

*The president may say this or another suitable prayer.*

God of Life,  
who for our redemption  
gave your only-begotten Son  
to the death of the cross,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of our enemy.  
grant us so to die daily to sin,  
that we may evermore live with him  
in the joy of his risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

[CW p400]

## *The Dismissal*

## Blessing

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The president says either*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well pleasing  
in his sight;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p317]

*or*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead  
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting from the grave  
has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J84\*]*

### **Giving of a Lighted Candle**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The minister or another person may give all candidates a lighted candle. These candles may be lit from the candle used at the Decision.*

*When all have received a candle, the minister says*

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*[CW p363]*

*A minister says*

With the risen life of Christ within us  
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.



## Appendix A

### The Vigil readings, psalms and prayers

#### Notes

##### The Setting

Most people will keep the Easter Vigil of Readings in the Church but, according to local circumstances, the Vigil may be kept in a different place from the rest of the Easter Liturgy, especially if the Church has already been decorated for the Easter celebration. This may be a crypt, a church hall, a smaller chapel within the Church or a baptistery. It may be kept outside around a bonfire or any other suitable place.

##### The Beginning

It is important that some light is provided by which the Bible can be seen for the readings. This could be a small bonfire, or an oil lamp, or a small electric light, possibly coloured. However, it is important that this form of light should not be confused with the Easter Candle which will be used later.

##### The Prayers and Responses

A choice of two very different styles of prayers has been offered to accompany each of the readings. The first style follows a traditional collect structure and is introduced by a Christological response. The prayer then relates the reading to the work of Christ. It is suggested that these responses and collects should be used with Pattern A where the Vigil Readings are read by the light of the Easter Candle and therefore a Christological emphasis is appropriate.

The second style, beginning ‘Blessed are you...’ reflects the theme of the reading without referring directly to the work of Christ and is therefore more appropriately used in the story telling approach of Pattern B.

##### The choice of readings

A wide variety has been provided, from which an appropriate selection may be made according to the length of time available. The selection could follow different routes through the reading each following a particular themes or motifs. Some examples are offered here though others may be devised. However, a minimum of three Old Testament readings should be chosen. **The reading from Exodus 14 should always be used.** The Vigil may end with the reading of part or all of one of the narratives of the Passion (pp. 00).

##### *Baptismal Theme*

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a *The Creation*

Genesis 7 etc *Noah*

Jonah 1.1 – 2.10 *Jonah and the fish*

**Exodus 14, etc** *Crossing the Red Sea*

Ezekiel 36.24-28 *Sprinkled with the water of life*

Ezekiel 47.1-12 *The river of life*

***Women in salvation***

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a *The Creation*

Genesis 3 *The Fall*

Exodus 12.1-24 *The Passover*

**Exodus 14. etc** *Crossing the Red Sea*

Ruth 1.1etc *The faithfulness of Ruth*

1 Samuel 1.1-end *Hannah and the birth of Samuel*

Proverbs 8 etc *In praise of wisdom*

Isaiah 66.1 etc *The Lord is like a mother*

***Salvation Theme***

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a *The Creation*

Genesis 3 *The Fall*

Genesis 7 etc *Noah*

Exodus 3.1-5 *Moses and the burning bush*

**Exodus 14. etc** *Crossing the Red Sea*

Jonah 1.1 – 2.10 *Jonah and the fish*

Daniel 3.1-28 *Three young men in the furnace*

Daniel 6.1-24 *Daniel in the lion's den*

***Renewal Theme***

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a *The Creation*

Genesis 22;1-18 *Abraham and Isaac*

Exodus 12.1-24 *The Passover*

**Exodus 14. etc** *Crossing the Red Sea*

Jeremiah 31.31-34 *God promises a new heart*

Ezekiel 36.24-28 *Sprinkled with the water of life*

Ezekiel 37.1-14 *The valley of dry bones*

Ezekiel 47.1-12 *The river of life*

***Freedom Theme***

Genesis 1.1 – 2.4a *The Creation*

Genesis 3 *The Fall*

Exodus 3.1-5 *Moses and the burning bush*

Exodus 12.1-24 *The Passover*

**Exodus 14. etc** *Crossing the Red Sea*

Isaiah 54.5 - 15 *I will save you from all your afflictions*

Ezekiel 47.1 - 12 *The river of life*

Zephaniah 3.14 – 20 *Jerusalem praises God*

***A variety of styles***

The Service of Readings may be handled in a number of different ways ranging from the purely formal to the totally informal. The formal approach may use the reading, the silence, the psalm, and collect as set. A sermon may be preached after some or all the readings. On the other hand there may be children present which necessitates a more informal approach, though the informal approach is worthwhile for its own sake. The Bible readings could be read dramatically using different voices, or enacted. Each reading could be followed by silence, inter-active Bible Study, artistic activity (including the marking of the Easter Candle), discussion, testimony, drama, intercession, singing or whatever is appropriate for the context. Choruses, spiritual songs or appropriate hymnody could replace the Psalm: If the Vigil is to last all night there could be specific points for eating and drinking that are related to the readings. This approach is particularly appropriate if the Vigil is to last all night.

### **Silence**

Even if an informal style is to be adopted for the Vigil there should be opportunities for silence available either as part of the structure of the worship or as a physical place where silence can be encountered by the participants.

### **Lighting**

It is desirable for the building to be as dark as possible during the Vigil, except for essential lighting. However, for some activities the lights may need to be switched on. This can add to the overall effect of the Vigil readings

### **Marking the Easter Candle**

The marking of the Easter Candle could be an activity in response to one of the readings, as could other preparatory actions for the Baptismal Liturgy such as filling a baptismal ewer.

## **The Reading, Psalms and Prayers**

### *Reading I*

**Genesis 1.1-2.4a**      *The Creation*

Psalm 104.1-7

*Psalm Response:*

**Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ is the image of the unseen God  
**through him all things were made]**

Almighty God,  
you have created the heavens and the earth  
and made us in your own image.  
teach us to discern your hand in all your works  
and your likeness in all your children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p22]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that we may see God's image restored.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
Your love cannot be contained  
and overflows in the wonder of creation.  
You formed the universe out of nothing

and moulded us from the clay of the earth.  
All you have made sings of your marvellous deeds,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading II*

**Genesis 3**     *The Fall*

Psalm 51.1–7

*Psalm Response:*     **Have mercy on me, O God.**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[As in Adam all die  
**So in Christ shall all be made alive.]**

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil  
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life.  
grant that we, having this hope,  
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;  
that when he shall appear in power and great glory  
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where he is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p72]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that our merciful God will show compassion on all who fall victim to the power of sin.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
The sin which we dare not confront breaks your heart  
and nothing can be concealed from your sight,  
yet you showed mercy to our ancestors.  
Show mercy today to all who fall prey to sin's lure,  
and shatter the power of evil,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading III*

**Genesis 7. 1-5, 11-18; 8.6-18; 9.8-13**      *Noah and the flood*

Psalm 36

*Psalm Response:*      **The Lord makes my darkness to be bright**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[In Baptism we died to sin  
**In Christ we are raised to life.]**

Grant, Lord,  
that we who are baptised into the death  
    of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
may continually put to death our evil desires  
    and be buried with him;  
and that through the grave and gate of death  
we may pass to our joyful resurrection;  
through his merits, who dies and was buried  
and rose again for us,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p34]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will wash away all that corrupts his work and restore in us the beauty for which we were made.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
In your perfect justice you hate the world's sin.  
Noah and his family risked ridicule for your sake  
yet their obedience brought them blessing.  
Flood our world with the tide of your love  
and rid us of all that disfigures your glorious creation,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading IV*

**Genesis 22.1-18**      *Abraham offers Isaac in sacrifice*

Psalm 16.8–end

*Psalm Response:* **In your presence is the fullness of joy**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[God so loved the world  
**That he gave his only Son.]**

Almighty God,  
whose chosen servant Abraham  
faithfully obeyed your call  
and rejoiced in your promise  
that, in him, all the families of the earth  
should be blessed.  
give us a faith like his,  
that, in us, your promises may be fulfilled;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[LHWE p252-253]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that we may have the courage and strength to make the sacrifices our faith demands.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
Through the faithfulness of Abraham  
all the children of earth are blessed.  
Give us the courage to give up to you those things  
that are most precious to us  
that in turn we may receive  
the honour and the joy of your blessing,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading V*

**Exodus 3. 1 – 5**                      *Moses and the Burning Bush*

Psalm 27

*Psalm Response:*        **Wait patiently for the Lord**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Your faith is tested by fire  
**To the praise and glory of Christ]**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love.  
grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,

they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p61]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray for a renewed vision for the people of God and a new commitment to break the chains of oppression.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You revealed yourself to your servant Moses  
in the awesome wonder of the burning bush  
and appointed him to lead your people  
to freedom in the promised land.  
By the fire of your Spirit today reveal yourself afresh  
and strengthen us to free the enslaved  
and break the bonds of the captive  
that they may openly sing your praise,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.

**Amen.**

*Reading VI*

**Exodus 12. 1 – 24**     *The Passover*

Psalm 77.11–end

*Psalm Response:*     **With a mighty arm you redeem your people**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us  
**There let us keep the feast.]**

God our Father,  
you have invited us to share in the supper  
which your Son gave to his Church  
to proclaim his death until he comes.  
may he nourish us by his presence,  
and unite us in his love;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will feed and sustain his people through the hard journeys of this life.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
With the dawning of their deliverance  
your people ate the feast of freedom.  
As Christ our Passover Lamb  
gives hope to the hopeless and frees the ensnared  
establish the justice for which your heart yearns,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading VII*

**Jonah 1. 1 – 2. 10**     *Jonah and the fish*

Psalm 130

*Psalm Response:*     **With the Lord there is mercy.**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ has saved us from the pit of death  
**He brought new life to the world.]**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son.  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p14]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that we may share God's heart of compassion for the lost.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
In the face of wickedness and disobedience  
you still looked lovingly  
on the people of Nineveh and your prophet Jonah.  
As we see your mighty salvation,  
turn the hearts of the wicked to the ways of your love  
that the whole world might return to you,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**



*Reading VIII*

**Daniel 3. 1-28**      *The three young men and the fiery furnace*

Song of the Three vs 29-65

*Canticle Response:*

**Blessed is the Lord who does mighty wonders**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[When you walk through the waters Christ is with you.

**We will never be consumed by the flames.]**

O God,  
you know us to be set  
in the midst of so many and great dangers,  
that by reason of the frailty of our nature  
we cannot always stand upright.  
grant to us such strength and protection  
as may support us in all dangers  
and carry us through all temptations;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p20]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray for courage to remain faithful to Christ even through the fires of this life.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You rewarded the faithfulness of the three young men  
with your protection against the blazing fire.  
When the burning flames of life threaten to consume us  
be faithful to us and transform our fear into your praise,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading IX*

**Daniel 6. 1 – 24**      *Daniel and the lion's den*

Psalm 34.1–10 (– end)

*Psalm Response:*      **I will bless the Lord at all times**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[The angels closed the lions' mouths  
**Christ has saved us from the jaws of death.]**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross.  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p23]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will sustain us when evil threatens to overcome us.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
Your servant Daniel was devoted to you  
even in the face of the death threats of his enemies.  
As your angels kept shut the jaws of death  
protect your people as they try to be faithful today  
and stir in us a trust in your unfailing love,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading X (This reading must be used)*

**Exodus 14. 10 – 31; 15. 20 – 21**      *Crossing the Red Sea*

**Canticle: Exodus 15. 1b- 13, 17-18**

*Canticle Response:*    **This is my God and I will praise him**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*or*

The Lord is my strength and my might  
**He has become my salvation.]**

Lord God our redeemer,  
who heard the cry of your people  
and sent your servant Moses  
to lead them out of slavery.  
free us from the tyranny of sin and death  
and, by the leading of your Spirit,  
bring us to our promised land;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

[LHWE p255]

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will give freedom to his enslaved people.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You heard the agony of your people  
as they cried out from their slavery  
and you gave them Moses  
to lead them to a land flowing with milk and honey.  
Hear the cry of the enslaved and the homeless today  
and lead us through the turbulent sea of life  
to our true home with you,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XI*

**Ruth 1.15-18, 2.1-13, 4.13-17**      *The faithfulness of Ruth*

Psalm 61

*Psalm Response:*      **O God, listen to my prayer**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ remained faithful to death  
**Even death on a cross.]**

Almighty God,  
by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service.  
strengthen us by your Holy Spirit  
and make us worthy of our calling;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

[CW:Collects p19]

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray for perseverance and constancy in our walk of faith.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
In leaving mother, father and her native land  
to follow her mother-in-law  
Ruth foreshadows the faithfulness of Jesus.  
As she worked tirelessly to sustain an earthly life,  
give us perseverance as we walk with Jesus  
on the way that leads to eternal life with you,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XII*

**1 Samuel 1.1-end**     *The Birth of Samuel*

Canticle: Song of Hannah 1 Sam 2.1, 4-8  
*Canticle Response:*     **My heart exults in the Lord**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ has come that we might have life  
**Life in all its fulness.**]

Lord God of our salvation,  
you make the barren woman to be a joyful mother of children:  
open the barrenness of our hearts and minds  
that we may be joyful in your salvation  
and so bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that we may see the fulfilment of our heart's desire in this world and the next.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
After torment and tears you brought life  
from the barren womb of Hannah.  
Gaze on your suffering people with the same compassion  
and do not forget us, that through our faithfulness  
the barren may burst into life,

the mournful may overwhelmed with joy,  
and the mocked may find a voice to praise you,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

### *Reading XIII*

**Proverbs 8. 1-8, 19-21; 9.4b-6**      *In praise of Wisdom*

Canticle: Song of Wisdom Sirach 14.20a, 21, 27; 15.1-6  
*Canticle Response:*    **Let us drink of the water of wisdom**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ is the bread of life  
**Whoever comes to Him will never hunger.]**

O God, forasmuch as without you  
we are not able to please you;  
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit  
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p65]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray for the gift of wisdom for the leaders of our world.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You call us to live by your wisdom  
which is more precious even than gold or silver.  
As you beckon us to eat the bread of life  
and drink the cup of suffering  
may we gather forever at your table,  
and walk always in your way of love,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

### *Reading XIV*

**Isaiah 54.5-15**      *I will save you from all your afflictions*

Psalm 30  
*Psalm Response:*    **I will exalt you, O Lord**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ is the bridegroom  
**The Church is his bride.]**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross.  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p31]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will give hope to the grieving, the agonised and the dying.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
In your overwhelming compassion  
you gather the poor and broken-hearted.  
As we journey through this storm-tossed life  
comfort your people, wipe away our tears  
and establish us in the security of your love,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XV*

**Isaiah 55. 1-11**

*Let us return to the Lord who saves us*

Canticle: Isaiah 12.2-6

*Canticle Response:* **The Lord is my salvation.**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Whoever comes to Christ will never be hungry  
**All who believe in Christ will never thirst.]**

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world.

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p30]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray for peace and justice throughout our world.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You quench the thirst  
of those who yearn for righteousness  
and satisfy the hunger of those who crave for justice.  
Lead your longing people back to peace,  
that with the mountains and hills  
we may burst into songs of joy,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XVI*

**Isaiah 66.6-16**      *The Lord is like a mother*

Psalm 113

*Psalm Response:*      **O praise the name of the Lord**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[We share Christ's sufferings  
**That we might know the power of his resurrection.]**

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you.  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p63]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will hold and protect all who face abuse and rejection.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
As a mother comforts her child so you comfort us,  
even in pain as intense as child-birth.  
When we face the dank darkness of death,  
nurse us at your bosom  
and satisfy us at your consoling breast  
until we can sing the songs of justice and peace,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XVII*

**Jeremiah 31. 31 – 34**      *God promises a new heart*

Psalm 51.8–18

*Psalm Response:*      **Make me clean heart, O God**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[God will write his law on our hearts  
**He will be our God and we will be his people.]**

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new.  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p15]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will re-kindle in us a renewed love for him.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
Even when your people broke your covenant  
your heart cried out for them  
and you remained steadfast as a faithful husband.  
Renew in us our love for you



and write your law on our hearts  
that we may truly be your people, and you our God,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XVIII*

**Baruch 3. 9-15, 32-4.4**      *The commandments of life*

Psalm 19.7–end

*Psalm Response:*      **You are my strength and my redeemer**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ is the wisdom of God  
**Christ has the words of eternal life.]**

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life.  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p39]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will reveal his ways of wisdom to the proud and powerful.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You share your wisdom with the forsaken  
and open to us the way of life.  
Give us wisdom, strength and understanding  
that we may shine with the light of your glory  
and glow with gladness for you,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XIX*

**Ezekiel 36.24-28**      *Sprinkled with the water of life*

Psalm 42.1–7

*Psalm Response:*      **My soul longs for you, O God**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ gives the living water  
**Christ is the fountain of eternal life.]**

Heavenly Father,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit  
you give to your faithful people new life  
in the water of baptism.  
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,  
That we who are born again  
may serve you in faith and love,  
and grow into the full stature of your Son,  
Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[CW p350]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will give to the thirsting a new outpouring of his refreshing spirit.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
When we are overwhelmed by the wasting world,  
gather us again and renew us.  
Create in us a new heart and a renewed spirit  
that we may be a people prepared  
to live in your land and walk in your ways,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XX*

**Ezekiel 37. 1-14**

*The valley of dry bones*

Psalm 126

*Psalm Response:*     **The Lord has done great things for us**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Christ is the resurrection and the life  
**Those who believe in Christ will never die.]**

Lord God of our salvation.  
you speak the word to your scattered people,  
and bring up our life from the valley of death:  
breathe your Spirit upon your Church,  
that we may live and stand before you  
in the confidence of your risen Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will breathe new life into his weary creation.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You bring life from the darkest valley of death.  
When hope is lost  
and our dry bones are scattered in shame,  
speak your word to your broken people  
that we may stand confidently before you,  
and breathe your Spirit into us that we might live,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.

**Amen.**

*Reading XXI*

**Ezekiel 47. 1 – 12**     *The river of life*

Psalm 46.1–5

*Psalm Response*     **God is our refuge and strength**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[If we drink of the water that Christ gives  
**We will never thirst again.]**

God, the giver of life,  
whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church.  
by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will,  
that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord[,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever].

**Amen.**

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God's justice will flow like rivers in the deserts of this world.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
The river of life flows from your heart  
and where that stream goes everything bursts into flower.  
May your refreshing water  
be a torrent of life in the deserts of this world  
bringing food to eat and healing to the nations,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*Reading XXII*

**Zephaniah 3.14-20** *Jerusalem praises God*

Psalm 98

*Psalm Response:*      **Sing to the Lord a new song**

*Silence*

*With Pattern A*

[Where, O death, is your victory?  
**Where, O death, is your sting?**]

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ  
reconciling the world to yourself.  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be reconciled to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p59]*

*With Pattern B*

Let us pray that God will fill sad hearts with songs of joy.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of our salvation.  
You are King who dwells in the midst of the people  
as one brings victory from the jaws of defeat.  
Heal the sick and gather the outcast

and turn our shame into praise  
that we may sing aloud and exalt your name,  
O Lord, our Maker and Redeemer.  
**Amen.**

*If Pattern B is used it may conclude with a Reading of the Passion Gospel (on p00) during or after which all lights in the Church should be extinguished in preparation for the Lighting of the Easter Candle.*

**New Testament Reading**

Romans 6. 3-11

Psalm 114

*Psalm Response:*      **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Gospel Reading**

Year A:      Matthew 28. 1-10

Year B:      Mark 16. 1-8

Year C:      Luke 24. 1-12

## Appendix B

Outline service for a mid-morning Eucharist on Easter Day  
using elements from the Easter Liturgy

### Notes

This service is intended where there has been no Easter Vigil service which included the Service of Light. The Easter Liturgy is intended as a service for the night and it is important to present this liturgy so that it does not seem to be a night service that is accidentally being done during the morning.

The Easter Candle may be marked before the service. *See Appendix G.*

If the Easter Candle has already been lit at a previous service the form in Appendix D should be used.

### *The Service of Light*

*The ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle. All the lights in the building are switched off.*

### **The Service of Light**

*This acclamation may be used*

Christ yesterday and today,  
**the beginning and the end,**  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,**  
**through every age and for ever.**  
**Amen.**

*The Easter Candle may be marked at this point if this has not already been done. See Appendix G*

This is the day  
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life.  
Throughout the world Christians celebrate  
the awesome power of God.  
As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done  
we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death  
and live with him for ever.

*A minister lights the Easter Candle, saying*  
May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*The minister carrying the candle raises it and says or sings*  
Christ our light.

**Thanks be to God.**

*People may light their candles from the Easter Candle. Children may be encouraged to carry the light to people throughout the Church.*

*The procession moves further into the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated.*

*When the minister carrying the candle arrives at the front of the Church it is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit.*

**Exsultet**

*Exsultet (the Easter Song of Praise) may be said or sung by a minister standing near the candle.*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
O Universe, dance around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!  
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!

Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation  
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!  
Christ has conquered! Now his life and glory fill you!  
Darkness vanishes for ever!

Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!  
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.

*Alternatively the Introduction could be sung by the whole congregation to the tune of the meter 10.10.10.10 using the following form. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

**Sing, choirs of heaven! Let saints and angels sing!**  
**Around God's throne exult in harmony!**  
**Now Jesus Christ is risen from the grave!**  
**Salute your King in glorious symphony!**

**Sing, choirs of earth! Behold, your light has come!**  
**The glory of the Lord shines radiantly!**  
**Lift up your hearts, for Christ has conquered death!**  
**The night is past. the day of life is here!**

**Sing, Church of God! Exult your joy outpoured!**  
**The gospel trumpets tell of victory won!**  
**Your Saviour lives; he's with you evermore!**  
**Let all God's people sound the long Amen!**

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 right and good that with hearts and minds and voices  
we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God,  
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who has saved us by his death,  
paid the price of Adam's sin,  
and reconciled us once again to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

For this is the Passover feast,  
when Christ, the true Lamb of God, is slain  
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the day when you first saved our ancestors,  
freeing Israel from her slavery  
and leading her safely through the sea.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the day when Jesus Christ vanquished hell,  
broke the chains of death  
and rose triumphant from the grave.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the day when all who believe in him are freed from sin,  
restored to grace and holiness,  
and share the victory of Christ.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

This is the night day that gave us back what we had lost;  
beyond our deepest dreams  
you made even our sin a happy fault.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Crowning glory of all feasts !  
Evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,  
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Feast truly blessed when hatred is cast out,  
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth  
and all creation reconciled to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy  
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.



Grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;  
Christ is risen from the dead and his flame of love still burns within us!  
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!  
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!  
**Amen.**

*Other responses might include...*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Lord reigns.**

etc...

*However, responses using 'Alleluia!' should not be used until after the Easter Acclamation  
Other forms of the Exsultet with congregational sung participation can be found in Appendix E.*

*The minister says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A joyful fanfare may be played, bells rung, cymbals clashed, noise be made, lights switched on  
and the people's candles extinguished.*

*The service continues with the Gloria in Excelsis or an Easter hymn of praise, the Collect and  
the Liturgy of the Word, and uses the Eucharistic material from the Easter Liturgy.*

*After the Sermon it is particularly appropriate that the congregation are given the opportunity  
to renew their Baptismal Vows. Alternatively, the Thanksgiving for the Resurrection may be  
used.*

## **Appendix C**

### **An Outline Service of the Word for Easter Day**

#### **Notes**

This outline is to help those who wish to have a non-Eucharistic Sunday morning service on Easter Day.

If the Easter Candle has already been lit at a previous service the introductory rite from Appendix D might be used.

#### ***The Order of Service***

*The ministers go in silence to the main entrance, one of them carrying the unlit Easter Candle. All the lights in the building are switched off.*

#### **The Service of Light**

Christ yesterday and today,  
**the beginning and the end,**  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,**  
**through every age and for ever.**  
**Amen.**

This is the day  
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life.  
Throughout the world Christians celebrate  
the overwhelming power of God.  
As we hear his word and proclaim all that God has done  
we can be confident that we shall share his victory over death  
and live with him for ever.

*A minister lights the Easter Candle, saying*  
May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*The minister carrying the candle raises it and says or sings*  
Christ our light.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*People may light their candles from the Easter Candle. Children may be encouraged to carry the light to people throughout the Church.*

*The procession moves further into the building and then stops. The versicle and response are repeated.*

*When the minister carrying the candle arrives at the front of the Church it is placed on a stand in the midst of the building, and all other candles in the church are now lit.*

### **The Exsultet**

*This, or another form of the Exsultet may be used. or an Easter Hymn of praise is sung.*

*This fits to any tune with a 10.10.10.10 meter. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

*The first five verses should be sung by a solo voice, a deacon if possible*

*The verses in brackets may be omitted*

Exult and sing! O shining angel choirs!  
Exalt and dance, bright stars and blazing suns!  
The first born of creation, Jesus Christ,  
Is ris'n in radiant splendour from the dead.

Rejoice, O awesome night of our rebirth!  
Rejoice, O mother moon, that marks the months!  
For from your fullness comes, at last, the day  
When sin and death are robbed of all their power!

Arise then, sleepers, Christ enlightens you!  
Arise from doubt and sadness, sin and death!  
With joyful hearts and spirits set afire,  
Draw near to sing this Easter Candle's praise!

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
We praise you, God, for all your works of light!  
We bless you for that burst of fire and flame  
Through which you first created all that is.

The following verses in bold are sung by the congregation with the other verses sung by a solo voice or a choir

**We bless you for the light invisible.**  
**The fire of faith, the Spirit's grace and truth,**  
**That light, the source of life, that stirs the heart,**  
**And shines for ever on the face of Christ.**

Creator, in the joy of Easter eve (*or tide*)  
Accept our offering of this candle's light.  
May all who see its glow and feel its warmth  
Be led to know your nature and your name.

**For, Father, it was your own light and love**  
**That led your people through the foaming sea,**  
**In love you led them with a cloud by day**  
**And as a flaming shaft of fire by night.**

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When first you rescued people from the sea.  
A sign of that new birth which was to come  
In blood and water flowing from Christ's side.

**This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When your creating Spirit stirred again  
To turn back chaos and renew the world,  
Redeeming it from hatred, sin, and strife.**

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When all the powers of heaven and earth were wed  
And ev'ry hungry human heart was fed  
By Christ our Lamb's own precious flesh and blood!

**O night more holy than all other nights,  
Your watchful eye beheld in wondrous awe,  
The triumph of our saviour over sin.  
Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

**And so our God, creator of all life,  
With open hearts and hands we come to you.  
Anointed with the Holy Spirit's pow'r,  
We bear these precious gifts of fire and flame**

**We pray that when our night of watching ends,  
The Morning Star who dawns and never sets,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ may find us all  
United in one faith, one hope, one Lord.**

**For you alone are God, living and true.  
All glory, praise and pow'r belong to you  
With Jesus Christ, the One who conquered death  
And with the Spirit blest for evermore.**

**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**

*Other forms of the Exsultet with congregational sung participation can be found in Appendix E*

### **The Easter Acclamation**

*A minister says*  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*Gloria in Excelsis is used, or an appropriate Easter hymn during which all other candles in the Church are lit from the Easter Candle, the lights switched on and the people's candles extinguished.*

**The Collect**

Let us pray that we may walk the risen life of Christ in glory.

*A period of silent prayer is kept.*

*A Collect for Easter Day is read*

God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell.  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

**Reading(s)**

*After each reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows**

*The ministers and people gather at the font.*

*Re-affirmation of Baptismal Promises, Affirmation of Faith, and Blessing of Water and sprinkling of congregation with water. Hymns or songs may be sung as the water is sprinkled over the congregation.*

**The Peace**

**Thanksgiving for the Resurrection**

**Intercessions**

*Including Lord's Prayer*

## Conclusion

*The congregation accompanies the first three responses with a sweep of the arm towards a cross, as if throwing the objects of the prayer; the final response is a sweep of the arm towards heaven.*

All our problems  
**we send to the cross of Christ.**  
All our difficulties  
**we send to the cross of Christ.**  
All the devil's works  
**we send to the cross of Christ.**  
All our hopes  
**we set on the risen Christ;**  
and the blessing of God almighty ...

*[New Patterns J66]*

*or*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**he has given us new life and hope**  
**by raising Jesus from the dead!**

God has claimed us as his own.  
**he has brought us out of darkness!**  
**he has made us light to the world!**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**he is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## Appendix D

### Welcoming the Easter Candle into the Church

*This rite may be used where the Easter Candle has been lit at a service on Holy Saturday either in the Church concerned or elsewhere.*

*The ministers gather at the back of Church*

*The President says*

Christ yesterday and today,  
**the beginning and the end,**  
Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
**to him be glory and power,**  
**through every age and for ever.**  
**Amen.**

*A minister brings in the lit Easter Candle and proclaims*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The minister may repeat the acclamation getting louder each time.*

*The President says*

This is the day when our Lord Jesus Christ was raised gloriously from the dead crushing the sin's power and destroying death's sting. Throughout the world Christians celebrate the awesome power of God as Christ calls us out of darkness to share in his marvellous light. May we, and all Christ's people, shine as lights in the world to the glory of God the Father.

*The minister holding the candle says or sings,*

Christ our Light.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*An Easter hymn of praise may be sung as the Easter Candle leads a procession to the Easter Garden.*

### At the Easter Garden

*The minister holding the candle says or sings,*

Christ our Light.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A reader says*

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.

*Matthew 28.5,6*

*A minister says*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To you be glory now and for ever.

In your great mercy you have given us a new birth

into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

By your blessing may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of his victory

be strengthened in faith,

know the power of his presence,

and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[Lent, Holy Week, Easter\*]*

*Various actions may be performed. A stone may be rolled away from the entrance to the tomb; a light in the tomb may be lit; figures may be placed inside the empty tomb; or other appropriate gestures may be made.*

*A minister says this prayer.*

Risen Lord Jesus,

as Mary Magdalen met you in the garden

on the morning of your resurrection,

so may we meet you today and every day.

speak to us as you spoke to her;

reveal yourself as the living Lord;

renew our hope and kindle our joy;

and send us to share the good news with other.

**Amen.**

*If there are to be Prayers of Penitence they take place here. The Kyrie form beginning "Like Mary at the empty tomb," in the Easter Material (p00) should be used.*

*After the absolution the Easter Acclamation is used.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*The minister holding the candle says or sings,*

Christ our Light.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Hymns and songs are sung as the congregation comes to the minister holding the Easter Candle and lights their own candle.*



*Once the congregation's candles have been lit a minister leads the following Acclamation*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope  
by raising Jesus from the dead.**

[God has claimed us as his own.

**He has made us light to the world.]**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*[New Patterns A31]*

### **Gloria in Excelsis**

*The Easter Candle leads the procession of ministers to the front of the Church and is placed in a prominent position. Alternatively, an Easter Hymn of praise may be sung, the Easter Anthems, or the Thanksgiving for the resurrection may be used.*

*The service continues with the Collect for Easter Day following the pattern of the Easter Liturgy*

*The congregation's candles remain lit until after the Gospel reading.*

## Appendix E

### Alternative forms of the Exsultet

#### Form 1: Metrical with a one line congregational response

*This fits to a tune with a 10.10.10.10 meter. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

*The first five verses should be sung by a solo voice, a deacon if possible. The parts in bold are sung by the congregation. The parts in ordinary type are sung by a solo voice or a choir. The verses in brackets may be omitted.*

Exult and sing! O shining angel choirs!  
Exalt and dance, bright stars and blazing suns!  
The first born of creation, Jesus Christ,  
Is ris'n in radiant splendour from the dead.

Rejoice, O awesome night of our rebirth!  
Rejoice, O mother moon, that marks the months!  
For from your fullness comes, at last, the day  
When sin and death are robbed of all their power!

[Awaken, earth! Awaken, air and fire!  
O children born of clay and water, come!  
The one who made you rises like the sun  
To scatter night and wipe your tears away.]

Arise then, sleepers, Christ enlightens you!  
Arise from doubt and sadness, sin and death!  
With joyful hearts and spirits set afire,  
Draw near to sing this Easter Candle's praise!

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
We praise you, God, for all your works of light!  
We bless you for that burst of fire and flame  
Through which you first created all that is.

[A living universe of soaring stars,  
O space and spinning planets, soaring seas  
That cradle earth and rock against her breast.  
**We praise you God of everlasting light!]**

[We praise you for light's beauty, motion, speed.  
For eastern light that paints the morning sky;  
For western light that slants upon our doors,  
**We praise you God of everlasting light!]**

We bless you for the light invisible.  
The fire of faith, the Spirit's grace and truth,  
That shines for ever on the face of Christ.  
**We praise you God of everlasting light!**



Accept our offering of this candle's light.  
May all who see its glow and feel its warmth  
Be led to know your nature and your name.  
**We praise you God of everlasting light!**

For, Father, it was your own light and love  
That led your people through the foaming sea,  
And brought them safe into the Promised Land  
**We praise you God of everlasting light!**

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When first you rescued people from the sea.  
A sign of that new birth which was to come  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
Your Spirit, stirred up, now renews the world,  
Redeems us all from hatred, sin, and strife.  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
And ev'ry hungry human heart was fed  
By Christ our Lamb's own precious flesh and blood!  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

O night more holy than all other nights,  
Your watchful eye beheld in wondrous awe,  
The triumph of our Saviour over sin.  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

[O night that gave us back what we had lost!  
Beyond our deepest dreams this night, O God  
Your hand reached out to raise us up in Christ!  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!]**

[O night of endless wonder, night of bliss,  
When Christ robbed death and harrowed hopeless hell,  
Restoring life to all those in the tomb.  
**Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!]**

And so our God, creator of all life,  
With open hearts and hands we come to you.  
Anointed with the Holy Spirit's pow'r,  
We bear these precious gifts of fire and flame

We pray that when our night of watching ends,  
The Morning Star who dawns and never sets,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ may find us all  
United in one faith, one hope, one Lord.

For you alone are God, living and true.  
All glory, praise and pow'r belong to you  
With Jesus Christ, the One who conquered death  
And with the Spirit blest for evermore.

**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**

## **Form 2: Metrical with some congregational verses**

*This fits to any tune with a 10.10.10.10 meter. Note: not all tunes of 10.10.10.10 meter are suitable.*

*The first five verses should be sung by a solo voice, a deacon if possible. The parts in bold are sung by the congregation. The parts in ordinary type are sung by a solo voice or a choir. The verses in brackets may be omitted.*

Exult and sing! O shining angel choirs!  
Exalt and dance, bright stars and blazing suns!  
The first born of creation, Jesus Christ,  
Is ris'n in radiant splendour from the dead.

Rejoice, O awesome night of our rebirth!  
Rejoice, O mother moon, that marks the months!  
For from your fullness comes, at last, the day  
When sin and death are robbed of all their power

[Awaken, earth! Awaken, air and fire!  
O children born of clay and water, come!  
The one who made you rises like the sun  
To scatter night and wipe your tears away.]

Arise then, sleepers, Christ enlightens you!  
Arise from doubt and sadness, sin and death!  
With joyful hearts and spirits set afire,  
Draw near to sing this Easter Candle's praise!

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
We praise you, God, for all your works of light!  
We bless you for that burst of fire and flame  
Through which you first created all that is.

*The deacon may sing this verse and then alternate with a second voice until the fully congregational verses.*

[A living universe of soaring stars,  
O space and spinning planets, soaring seas  
That cradle earth and rock against her breast.

We praise you God of everlasting light!]

[We praise you for light's beauty, motion, speed.  
For eastern light that paints the morning sky;  
For western light that slants upon our doors,  
Inviting us to praise you every night.]

We bless you for the light invisible.  
The fire of faith, the Spirit's grace and truth,  
That light, the source of life, that stirs the heart,  
And shines for ever on the face of Christ.

Creator, in the joy of Easter eve (*or tide*)  
Accept our offering of this candle's light.  
May all who see its glow and feel its warmth  
Be led to know your nature and your name.

For, Father, it was your own light and love  
That led your people through the foaming sea,  
In love you led them with a cloud by day  
And as a flaming shaft of fire by night.

This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When first you rescued people from the sea.  
A sign of that new birth which was to come  
In blood and water flowing from Christ's side.

**This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When your creating Spirit stirred again  
To turn back chaos and renew the world,  
Redeeming it from hatred, sin, and strife.**

**This is the night, most blessed of all nights,  
When all the powers of heaven and earth were wed  
And ev'ry hungry human heart was fed  
By Christ our Lamb's own precious flesh and blood!**

**O night more holy than all other nights,  
Your watchful eye beheld in wondrous awe,  
The triumph of our saviour over sin.  
Now is Christ risen, We are raised with him!**

**[O night that gave us back what we had lost!  
O night that made our sin a happy fault!  
Beyond our deepest dreams this night, O God  
Your hand reached out to raise us up in Christ!]**

**[O night of endless wonder, night of bliss,  
When ev'ry living creature held its breath  
As Christ robbed death and harrowed hopeless hell,  
Restoring life to all those in the tomb.]**

**And so our God, creator of all life,  
With open hearts and hands we come to you.  
Anointed with the Holy Spirit's pow'r,  
We bear these precious gifts of fire and flame**

**We pray that when our night of watching ends,  
The Morning Star who dawns and never sets,  
Our Saviour Jesus Christ may find us all  
United in one faith, one hope, one Lord.**

**For you alone are God, living and true.  
All glory, praise and pow'r belong to you  
With Jesus Christ, the One who conquered death  
And with the Spirit blest for evermore.**

**Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!  
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen!**

### **Form 3: A modern variant**

Rejoice, heavenly powers!  
Sing, choirs of angels!  
Exult all life forms throughout creation!  
Jesus Christ from death is risen!  
Sound the trumpet of salvation!

It is truly right  
That with full hearts, clear minds, and strong voices  
We should praise the unseen God  
From whom we all draw life,  
And Jesus our anointed one,  
The human face of God's own goodness.

In Christ the gap  
Between us and God's own deep mystery  
Has been bridged.

The ancient fears  
The tribal taboos  
Our sense of shame  
Have been swept away in the light of Christ.

Our first mothers and fathers  
Sang of God's salvation  
Around fires in the desert.  
Their sons and daughters, we sing the same song.

This night made Adam's sin a happy fault  
which gained for us in Christ  
so great a Saviour.

This is the night when Christians everywhere  
Celebrate redemption  
Claim forgiveness  
Take hold of new life.

This is the night when God says "No" to death.  
That final boundary to human life,  
That door we once feared to approach.

This is the night God swallows death.  
Absorbs its sting into God's own life,  
Strips death of all power,  
Renews our fainting hearts.

Night truly blessed.  
When heaven and earth are divided no more,  
Women and men are reconciled with God,  
Death gives way to life.

And so, our God, in the joy of this night,  
Receive our offering of praise.  
Accept this Easter candle.  
A flame divided but undimmed.

May it mingle with the lights of heaven  
And continue bravely burning  
To dispel the darkness of night.

May Christ, the Morning Star that never sets,  
Draw us all closer to God,  
And may the peace and justice of God  
Be our shared human experience.

Accept our praise and our prayers  
That we offer through Jesus, the risen one,  
Who shares the life of God  
With Father and Spirit for ever and ever.

*[© Gregory C. Jenks, Easter Eve, 1999. gregjenks@bigpond.com]*

### **The Bees**

In recent years some have shown an interest in reviving the references to bees in the Exsultet. The bees played a prominent role in the text of the so-called "Franco-Roman" Exsultet, even though they were dropped from the Roman liturgy in 1570. For those who wish to restore these references we offer this version for optional insertion into the main text of the Exsultet.



*The Exsultet is sung as written up to this verse*

Night / Feast truly blessed when hatred is cast out,  
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth  
and all creation reconciled to you.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

*After which it concludes*

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy  
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering,  
this wax, the work of bees and the hands of your ministers.

**[Glory to you for ever.]**

As we gaze upon the splendour of this flame  
fed by melting wax conceived by mother bee,  
grant that this Easter Candle may make our darkness light.

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;  
Christ is risen from the dead  
    and his flame of love still burns within us!  
Christ sheds his peaceful light on all the world!  
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever!  
**Amen.**

## **Appendix F**

### **Thanksgiving for the Resurrection**

*The Thanksgiving for the Resurrection can be used in a number of different ways through the Easter Season.*

*The whole text may be used at the beginning of the Eucharist throughout the Easter Season following on from the opening greeting. It may be followed by The Gloria. If it is used in this way Section 3 may be omitted. It may also be used as a Processional at Evening Prayer.*

*Section 2 may be used alone in procession to the baptismal font.*

#### **Section 1**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Let us praise and exalt him for ever.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power**

**Be to Him who sits upon the throne**

**And to the Lamb for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Great and marvellous are your works,**

**Lord God the almighty;**

**Just and true are your ways,**

**King of saints;**

**All glorious your gifts, Spirit of life.**

**Blessing and honour**

**and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving**

**and honour and power and might**

**be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### **Section 2**

O give thanks to Lord, for he is gracious.

**and his mercy endures for ever.**

He has loved us from all eternity.

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

And remembered us when we were in trouble.

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven.

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary.

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

By his cross and passion he has redeemed the world.

**for his mercy endures for ever.**

And has washed us from our sins in his own blood.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

On the third day he rose again.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

And has given us the victory.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

He ascended into heaven.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

And opened wide for us the everlasting doors.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

He is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

And ever lives to make intercession for us.  
**for his mercy endures for ever.**

[CW p370]

*Section 2 may end either with the 'Gloria' or the conclusion at Section 4*

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning is now**  
**and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### ***Section 3***

For the gift of his Spirit.  
**blessed be Christ.**

For the catholic Church.  
**blessed be Christ.**

For the means of grace.  
**blessed be Christ.**

For the hope of glory.  
**blessed be Christ.**

For the triumphs of his gospel.  
**blessed be Christ.**

For the lives of his saints.  
**blessed be Christ.**

In joy and in sorrow.  
**blessed be Christ.**

In life and in death.  
**blessed be Christ.**

Now and to the end of the ages.  
**blessed be Christ.**

*[CW p371]*

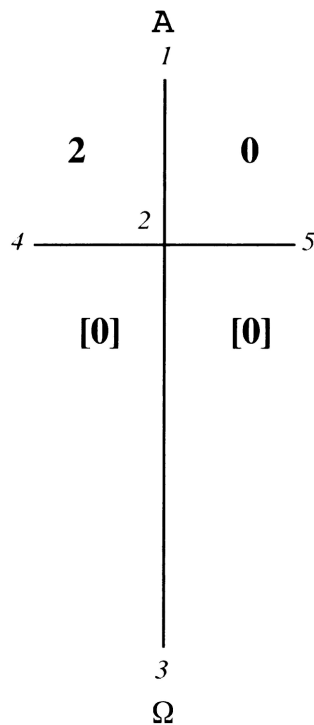
***Section 4 / Conclusion***

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise  
more than we can utter,  
more than we can conceive,  
be to you, O most adorable Trinity,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
by all angels, all peoples, all creation,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen. Alleluia!**

## Appendix G

### Instructions for Marking the Easter Candle

A minister brings the Easter Candle to the president who traces the greek letter ALPHA above the cross, and the Greek letter OMEGA below. The numbers of the current year are marked in the space between the arms of the cross, as seen in the diagram below.



*As the vertical of the cross is traced the President says*  
Christ, yesterday and today

*As the horizontal is traced the President says*  
the beginning and the end

*As the Alpha is traced*  
Alpha

*As the Omega is traced*  
Omega

*As the first number of the year is traced the president says*  
all time belongs to him

*As the second number is traced*  
and all ages

*As the third number is traced*  
to him be glory and power

*As the fourth number is traced*  
through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

*Five nails or incense studs may then be inserted into the candle reminding us of the five wounds of Christ. Each stud is placed in the Candle at the points marked and as each is inserted the president says*

- 1 By his holy
- 2 and glorious wounds
- 3 may Christ our Lord
- 4 guard us
- 5 and keep us

## **Appendix H**

### **The Dawn Service**

*Although the notes below are based on the shape of Pattern B they equally apply if the Pattern A shape is used; ie the lighting of the Easter Light/Candle could come before or after the Old Testament reading(s), reflection or sharing of stories.*

### ***An Outline Shape***

*The service should begin before dawn so that the sunrise can be part of the worship.*

*A fire might be lit around which the stories and the sharing could take place. This prayer might be used as the fire is lit.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.  
to you be glory and praise forever.  
Your steadfast love extends to the heavens  
and your faithfulness never ceases.  
Illuminate our hearts with your wisdom  
and strengthen our lives with your word,  
for you are the fountain of life;  
in your light we see true light.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*There should be some element of waiting. Personal, historical and biblical stories of escape might be shared. If there is to be only one reading from the Old Testament this should be the crossing of the Red Sea from Exodus 14. If the service is held at a riverside or on a beach the congregation might gather at the waters edge for this reading.*

*Before the Easter Light is lit the fire could be blessed using this prayer.*

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light.  
set us aflame with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*At dawn an Easter Light is lit and an Easter Song of Praise may be sung.*

*The Easter Acclamation “Alleluia! Christ is risen **He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**” is used. This might be followed by shouting, fireworks, party poppers, balloons, confetti and the use of other items of celebration.*

*The resurrection Gospel for the day is read.*

*Some form of Re-affirmation of Baptismal Vows might be used which includes a blessing of water. This might be done in an active rather than a verbal way using whatever water is naturally available.*

*If the Eucharist is celebrated, an authorised Eucharistic prayer is used.*

*Breakfast may be shared, possibly using John 21.3-11 as a Dismissal Gospel.*

*If needed, liturgical resources for this service can be found in the Easter Liturgy and in the Easter Material on p00.*

## **Notes**

If there has been an all night Vigil as part of Pattern B the dawn service might follow. Alternatively, some other all night event might precede the dawn service. The congregation would move to the outside venue at the appropriate point. Others who have not participated in the all night event could join those who have at this point.

## **The Content**

Even a service conducted out of doors should, if possible, contain aspects of all four elements of the Easter Liturgy. The Service of Light, the Vigil of Readings, the Baptismal Liturgy, and the Eucharist, though these should be treated informally and lightly.

## **The Place**

Careful thought needs to be given to the venue of such a service. Many Churches select places that are of significance to the community, or places where the Easter Liturgy can be seen, such as a hilltop. Places of local religious significance are especially suitable.

Let the venue influence the emphases within the service. If the service is on a hilltop let the sunrise emphasise the coming of light into the world. If it is by a river let elements of the Baptismal Liturgy come to the fore. If it is near a cave focus on the empty tomb. If it is in a graveyard let victory over death predominate; there could be reflection on the impact of the death of Jesus on his family and friends. If it is in a garden use it as an Easter Garden. Look for connections between the venue and aspects of the Easter story and use the surroundings to bring out different elements within the Easter mystery. If more than one feature of the venue relates to the resurrection story process from one area to another.

The timing of the service might be so arranged that the sounds of the awakening day become the backdrop to the people's Song of Easter Praise.

## **Candles**

Candles are unlikely to stay lit for long if at all so other alternatives should be explored. These could include light sticks, oil burners, hurricane lamps, mosquito flames, and battery torches. Candles can be kept alight with some success by placing them in jars or by using transparent protection around the top of the candle, but this can never be guaranteed.

## **The Easter Light**

The Easter Light should be lit while it is still at the first signs of dawn to emphasise the power of the light of Christ.



Whatever form of light is used care should be taken to ensure that the Easter Light does not go out during the service! If at all possible, the Easter Light should be an actual flame from which an Easter Candle might be lit in Church at a later point.

There should only be one lighting of an Easter Candle for each Church. If the lighting takes place in this service a light from it should be taken to the Church to light the Church's Easter Candle. A liturgy for bringing the Easter Light into Church is available in *Appendix D*.

**Vesture**

Simple robes perhaps reflect the spirit of this outdoor service, but the liturgical colour of white or gold should not be forgotten.

If this service is eucharistic it does not replace a celebration of the Holy Communion in the parish church.

## APPENDIX I

### Prayers at the Easter Garden

*The minister moves to the Easter Garden and says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A reader says*

The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. *Matthew 28.5,6*

*A minister says*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

To you be glory now and for ever.

In your great mercy you have given us a new birth

into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

By your blessing may we who have prepared this garden in celebration of his victory

be strengthened in faith,

know the power of his presence,

and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

[LHWE\*]

*Various actions may be performed. A stone may be rolled away from the entrance to the tomb; a light in the tomb may be lit; figures may be placed inside the empty tomb; or other appropriate gestures may be made.*

*A minister says this prayer.*

Risen Lord Jesus,

as Mary Magdalen met you in the garden

on the morning of your resurrection,

so may we meet you today and every day.

speak to us as you spoke to her;

reveal yourself as the living Lord;

renew our hope and kindle our joy;

and send us to share the good news with other.

**Amen.**

*If there are to be Prayers of Penitence they take place here. The Kyrie form beginning “Like Mary at the empty tomb,” in the Easter Material (p00) should be used.*

*After the absolution the Easter Acclamation is used.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

# Easter

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## Introduction to the Season

The Easter Vigil marks the end of the emptiness of Holy Saturday, and leads into the celebration of Christ's resurrection. The singing of the Exultet, the ancient hymn of triumph and rejoicing, links this night of our Christian redemption to the Passover night of Israel's redemption out of Egypt. Christian baptism is a participation in the death and resurrection of Christ, a dying to sin in order to reborn in him, and the Easter vigil was from early Christian times a preferred occasion for baptism. It is fittingly a time when those who are already Christians may repeat with renewed commitment the promises of their own baptism, and strengthen their sense of incorporation into the royal and priestly ministry of the whole people of God. The Easter Gospel is proclaimed with all the joy and splendour that the church can find. The Easter eucharist may follow immediately on the Vigil, or be deferred until Easter Day. All the resources of the church – music, flowers, bells, colours – are used to celebrate Christ's resurrection. The 'Alleluia', which has been silent throughout Lent, returns.

Now the queen of seasons, bright  
 with the day of splendour,  
 with the royal feast of feasts,  
 Comes its joy to render. (John of Damascus)

*The great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period, in which this tone of joy is sustained. Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, which Tertullian calls "this most joyful period" (laetissimum spatium). It is sometimes also called "Great Sunday".*

On the fortieth day, there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's Ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The Ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

## Seasonal Material

### Invitations to Confession

*During the Easter season the confession might appropriately led from the Easter Garden.*

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

*1 Corinthians 5.7,8 [CW p316]*

*or*

In baptism we died with Christ,  
so that as Christ was raised from the dead,  
we might walk in newness of life.  
Let us receive new life in him  
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith

*cf Romans 6.4*

*or*

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.  
Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil  
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Romans 6.10 [Enriching p35]*

### Confessions

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,  
We come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
And confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
And not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
As faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
And doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

*[CW p125]*

*or*

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p36]*

*or*

Like Mary at the empty tomb,

we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Like the disciples behind locked doors,

we are afraid to be seen as your followers.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Like Thomas in the upper room,

we are slow to believe.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### **Absolution**

*This form of absolution may appropriately be used at the Sunday Eucharist in Eastertide.*

*The president prays over a vessel of water*

God our Father,

your gift of water

brings life and freshness to the earth;

in baptism it is a sign

of the washing away of our sins

and the gift of life eternal.

Sanctify this water, we pray.

Renew the living spring of your life within us,

that we may be free from sin

and filled with your saving health;

through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The president and people are sprinkled.*

*Suitable hymns, songs or anthems may be sung.*

*The president concludes with this or another authorised absolution*

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.**

*[CW p135]*

### **Gospel Acclamations**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty'.  
**Alleluia.**

*John 6.35*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Jesus said, 'All who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them  
up on the last day'.  
**Alleluia.**

*John 6.40*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.  
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die'.  
**Alleluia.**

*John 11.25-26*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.  
**Alleluia.**

*cf Revelation 1.17,18 [CW p316]*

*or*  
Jesus Christ is risen from the dead  
**Alleluia!**  
He has defeated the powers of death  
**Alleluia!**  
Jesus turns our sorrow into dancing  
**Alleluia!**  
He has the words of eternal life.  
**Alleluia!**

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father

That our risen Saviour may fill us (and ... ) with the joy of his  
glorious and life-giving resurrection ...  
we pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength  
in the good news of Easter ...  
we pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another  
in Christian love ...  
we pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter ...  
we pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world ...  
let us pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick,  
the weak and the dying,  
to comfort and strengthen them ...  
let us pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises,  
all who have died in the faith of the resurrection  
may rejoice in eternal life ...  
let us pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

That he may send forth the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,  
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection,  
let us pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father,  
you have delivered us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,  
so his continual presence in us may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[New Patterns F60\*]*



*or*

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.

Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your Gospel to the nations ...  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to the hungry ...  
and nourish us all with your word.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way ...  
deepen our appreciation of your truth,  
and fill us with your life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover the straggler,  
bind up the injured,  
strengthen the sick  
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and  
believed in you ...  
raise us with them to eternal life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us,**  
**accept our prayers, and be with us always.**  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns F67]*

*or*

Jesus, our exalted Lord has been given all authority.  
Let us seek his intercession that our prayers may be perfected by his prayer.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, great high priest,  
living for ever to intercede for us,  
Pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, King of righteousness,  
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,  
Pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule.....

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,  
drawing humanity into the life of God,  
Pray for your sisters and brothers in need, distress, or sorrow,....

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus, pioneer of our salvation,  
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,  
surround with your saints and angels  
those who have died trusting your promises....

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,  
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,  
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for work in your service....

*Silence is kept.*

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ,  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

## Introductions to 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. Alleluia.

*John 20.19, 20 [CW p316]*

*or*

Alleluia! Christ has been raised from the dead.

*1 Corinthians 15.20*

*or*

The two disciples told what had happened on the road to Emmaus,  
and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia!

*Luke 24.35*

## Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

Creator of all,  
you wash away our sins (in water),  
you give us new birth by the Spirit,  
and redeem us in the blood of Christ.  
As we celebrate the resurrection,  
renew your gift of life within us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

*[BAS (Canada)]*

*or*

Risen Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe you, and all we have heard is true.  
When you break bread  
may we recognise you as the fire that burns within us  
that we may bring light to your world. **Amen.**

*[NZPB \*]*

*or*

Be present, be present,  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.  
**Amen.**

*[CW p292]*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.  
In your loving care you spread before us the table of life  
And give us the cup of salvation to drink.  
Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd,  
Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[BAS (Canada)\*]*

**Prefaces**

But chiefly are we bound to praise you  
 because you raised him gloriously from the dead.  
 For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us,  
 and has taken away the sin of the world.  
 By his death he has destroyed death,  
 and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

[CW p316]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
 because in his victory over the grave a new age has dawned,  
 the long reign of sin is ended,  
 a broken world is being renewed  
 and humanity is once again made whole.

[CW:President's]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
 because through him you have given us eternal life  
 and delivered us from the bondage of sin and the fear of death  
 into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

[CW:President's]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
 because Christ our paschal sacrifice  
 has made us children of the light,  
 rising to new and everlasting life.  
 He has opened the gates of heaven  
 to receive his faithful people.  
 His death is our ransom from death.  
 his resurrection is our rising to life.  
 The joy of the resurrection renews the whole world,  
 while the choirs of heaven sing for ever to your glory  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord ...**

[Enriching p41]

**Extended Prefaces**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
 almighty and eternal Father,  
 and in these days of Easter  
 to celebrate with joyful hearts  
 the memory of your wonderful works.  
 For by the mystery of his passion  
 Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
 has conquered the powers of death and hell

and restored in men and women the image of your glory.  
He has placed them once more in paradise  
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation  
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

[CW p317]

*or*

We give you thanks and praise  
for the Gospel we have received.  
Christ died for our sins. Alleluia!  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Death comes to all through Adam,  
and sin reigns for a time.  
New life without end comes through Christ,  
and he reigns for ever. Alleluia!  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Death, where is your victory?  
Death, where is your sting?  
Death is swallowed up in victory,  
the victory you give us in Christ. Alleluia!  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We have been crucified with Christ,  
and live his risen life,  
to praise you for ever with angels and archangels.  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

[New Patterns G78]

## **Blessings and Endings**

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p317]

*or*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,

make you perfect in every good work to do his will;  
and the blessing ...

*or*

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ  
has given us the victory,  
give you joy and peace in your faith;  
and the blessing ...

*or*

God the Father,  
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,  
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p40]*

*or*

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ  
has given us the victory,  
give you joy and peace in your faith;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p40]*

*or*

May Christ,  
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,  
fill you with his new life;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p40]*

*or*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

## ***An Alternative Dismissal at Easter***

*After the post communion a hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be used*

### **Acclamation**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**He has given us new life and hope.**

**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.

**He has brought us out of darkness.**

**He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*[New Patterns G37]*

### **The Dismissal Gospel**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

*John 11.25-26*

*At the end the reader says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Blessing**

God the Father,

by whose love Christ was raised from the dead  
open to you who believe the gate of everlasting life.

**Amen.**

God the Son,

who in bursting from the grave  
has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.

**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

## Dismissal

He is not here. He is risen. Go ...

*or*

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead at work within us, go...

*or*

We are raised to new life with Christ. Go (in his peace.  
**Thanks be to God.)**

## Acclamations

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**  
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**He has given us new life and hope.**  
**He has raised Jesus from the dead.**  
God has claimed us as his own.  
**He has brought us out of darkness.**  
**He has made us light to the world.**  
Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*[New Patterns G37]*

*or*

Here are words you may trust.  
Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:  
**he is our salvation, our eternal glory.**  
If we die with him, we shall live with him;  
**if we endure we shall reign with him.**  
If we deny him, he will deny us;  
**if we are faithless, he keeps faith.**  
For he has broken the power of death  
**and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.**

*cf 2 Tim 2.11-13 [New Patterns G44]*

## Short Passages of Scripture

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

*Isaiah 49.13*



‘The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.’

*Mark 9.31*

Jesus said, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day.’

*Luke 24.46*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

*John 20.19*

After his suffering Jesus presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

*Acts 1.3*

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being.

*1 Corinthians 15.20-21*

As all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

*1 Corinthians 15.22*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

*1 Peter 1.3*

## The Stations of the Resurrection

### An Emerging Devotion

Through Lent and Passiontide there has been a long tradition in the Church of meditating on the events of the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, called the Stations of the Cross. In the later part of the 20th century a complementary devotion has emerged, possibly from the Iberian peninsula, called the *Stations of the Resurrection* or the *Stations of Joy*. They provide much needed resources for the celebration of the Great Fifty Days.

As with the Stations of the Cross, we move from station to station, reading an appropriate Bible passage and meditating on it. By using the resurrection appearances as a focus for reflection and meditation we have an opportunity to appreciate and celebrate the Easter mysteries of the resurrection of our Lord. The resurrection appearances are more than just stories or history, they are a record of personal encounters with our risen Lord, so silence and space should be given to allow the liturgy to enable that encounter to happen today.

### Notes

#### 1. Images and Material

Because of the relative novelty of the Stations of the Resurrection, related images are not as readily available as those for the Stations of the Cross. However, already a number of commentaries and ancillary material have been published. Images are becoming available and can be found with relative ease on the world wide web. Alternatively, they could be created locally at events such as an Easter workshop.

#### 2. Movement

Movement is at the heart of this kind of worship. If possible, people should be encouraged to leave their places, move around the building and gather at each station. The element of pilgrimage is a vital part of this liturgy. However, where it is necessary for the congregation to stay in their seats they could be encouraged to turn and to face each of the stations.

#### 3. Structuring the Services

The structure of the main part of the service is self explanatory. The Gathering and the Conclusion should always be included. It is not necessary that all the stations be used in one act of worship; a few of them might be used each week throughout the Easter season. It is recommended, however, that the order presented here should be maintained.

#### 4. Response

At the end there is the opportunity to insert an appropriate response. This could be penitence, praise, intercession or some action that is appropriate to the stations selected. This also offers a further opportunity for movement as people could be invited to spend some time at a particular station of their choice.

#### 5. Music

Hymns and songs, music and drama may be added at suitable points.

#### 6. Holy Communion

If the stations are to form part of a service of Holy Communion, they form the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Sacrament begins with the Peace. Care should be taken to conform with the requirements of A Service of the Word with a Celebration of Holy Communion (*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, page 25).

## The Stations

I	The Earthquake	Matt 28.1-4
II	Mary Magdalene finds the Empty Tomb	John 20.1-2
III	The Disciples run to the Empty Tomb	John 20.3-8
IV	The Angel appear to the women	Matt 28.5-8 Mark 16.3-8 Luke 24.2-9
V	Jesus meets the women	Matt 28.9-10
VI	The Road to Emmaus	Luke 24.28-35
VII	Jesus appears to the disciples	Luke 24.36-43 John 20.19-20
VIII	Jesus promises the Spirit	Luke 24.44-49
IX	Jesus commissions the disciples	John 20.20-21
X	Jesus breathes the Spirit in the Upper room	John 20.22-23
XI	Jesus reveals himself to Thomas	John 20.24-29
XII	Jesus appears at the lakeside	John 21.9-14
XIII	Jesus confronts Peter	John 21.15-19
XIV	Jesus and the beloved disciple	John 21.20-23
XV	Jesus appears to five hundred at once	1 Corinthians 15.3-6
XVI	Jesus commissions the disciples on the mountain	Matt 28.16-20
XVII	The Ascension	Acts 1.1
XVIII	Pentecost	Acts 2
XIX	Jesus appears to Saul (Paul)	1 Corinthians 15.8 Acts 9

## ***The Gathering***

*At the entrance of the ministers a HYMN may be sung.*

*A minister may say*  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

*Isaiah 49.13*

Jesus said, 'This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life. and I will raise them up on the last day.'

*John 6.40*

*The minister introduces the service.*

Let us pray.

*A brief moment of silence follows.*

*One of the following Collects is said.*

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him.  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might.  
now and in all eternity.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

*or*  
God of glory,  
by the raising of your Son  
you have broken the chains of death and hell.  
fill your Church with faith and hope;  
for a new day has dawned  
and the way to life stands open  
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p35]*

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

### *Station I: The Earthquake*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

### **Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.1-4)

Suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men.

### **Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### **Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for in your resurrection the power of love breaks open the earth  
and frees life from death.  
As the angel rolled away the stone from the prison of the tomb,  
so release those imprisoned by life's misfortunes.  
To you Lord Jesus,  
whose life brings surprises beyond our wildest expectations,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station II: Mary Magdalene finds the empty tomb*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.1-2)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for the love which drew Mary Magdalene to your tomb  
to weep over your death.

As you broke into her grief with your death shattering life  
so reach into our broken hearts with your promise of hope.  
To you Lord Jesus, reaching into the deepest tombs of our despair,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station III: The Disciples run to the empty tomb*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.3-8)

Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth

that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed.

### Reflection / Meditation

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### Prayer

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for in you our God reveals the awesome power of love  
that is stronger even than death.  
As in your dying you destroyed death so in your rising  
may we be raised above the trials and torments of this world's woe.  
To you Lord Jesus, the fullness of your life  
revealed in an empty tomb,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

### *Station IV: The angel appears to the women*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

### Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.5-8)

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

### Reflection / Meditation

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### Prayer

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for your resurrection overturns our expectations of life  
and even your closest friends could not see truth before them.  
As the angel helped them to grasp your triumph

and overcome their fear  
so help us to see your hand at work  
through the events that overtake us.  
To you Lord Jesus, whose ways astonish beyond our imagining,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station V: Jesus meets the women*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.9-10)

Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for your simple word of greeting  
made the hearts of the women leap with joy.  
Speak your word of love to those whose hearts are broken  
that they too may hear you loving, beckoning call.  
To you Lord Jesus, whose call summons us to life in all its fullness,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]



*Station VI: The road to Emmaus*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.28-35)

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you are with us

even when our eyes are closed to your companionship.  
Walk this day alongside the disconsolate and the desperate,  
open their eyes to your gentle illumination,  
and let their hearts burn within them at your invisible presence.  
To you Lord Jesus, walking by our side,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station VII: Jesus appears to the disciples*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.36-43)

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for in your birth you were proclaimed the Prince of Peace,  
and in your resurrection you breath into your people  
peace beyond this world's understanding.

Be present Lord, this day with those whose lives  
are disfigured by conflict and those whose hearts know no peace.  
To you Lord Jesus, true bringer of the peace of heaven,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever

**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

*[CW p186]*

*Station VIII: Jesus promises the Spirit*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (24.44-49)

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you - that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you promised that the same power that was at work  
when you were raised from the dead would also be alive in us.  
Show your power to those who are powerless;  
reveal you love to those who feel unlovely  
and through your Spirit enable all your people  
to be witnesses of your amazing grace.  
To you Lord Jesus, daily renewing you people and your creation,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

*[CW p186]*

*Station IX: Jesus commissions the Disciples*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.21-23)

Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us.  
Equip your Church with the gifts to fulfil our calling  
that we may love as you loved, serve as you served,  
and willingly follow wherever you lead.  
To you Lord Jesus, gifting your people,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

*[CW p186]*

*Station X: Jesus breathes the Spirit in the Upper Room*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.22-23)

When Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you breathed new life into your astonished disciples.  
As you turned unutterable grief into unshakeable joy  
so renew and refresh your turbulent world  
and establish now your reign of peace.  
To you Lord Jesus,  
transforming the pain of death into the fullness of life,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station XI: Jesus reveals himself to Thomas*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (20.24-29)

Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you come to us even in our doubting.  
Through the sovereign work of your Spirit,

and the loving hands of your people,  
continue to reveal yourself where doubt is stronger than faith.  
To you Lord Jesus,  
whose resurrection body bears the murderous marks of the cross,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station XII: Jesus appears at the lakeside*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (21.9-14)

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, 'Who are you?' because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for at the lakeside you showed concern  
for daily needs of your disciples.  
As you guided them to fill their nets with fish  
so guide all who are hungry till their hunger is satisfied in you.  
To you Lord Jesus, sharing with us the food of faith,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station XIII: Jesus confronts Peter*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (21.15-19)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.' (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, 'Follow me.'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for even in the glorious victory of the resurrection  
you understood the failure of Peter who denied you.  
As you restored him to relationship with you  
remember all who feel downcast and worthless in this world's eyes and give them a sense of  
purpose and value.  
To you Lord Jesus, loving us despite our denial,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station XIV: Jesus and the beloved Disciple*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Gospel according to John (21.20-23)

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' So the rumour spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?'

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for your single-minded commitment to your Father's will.

May we be free from distractions of envy or self,  
that we might walk the way of the cross  
and know the power of your risen life.

To you Lord Jesus, treading boldly on the path of suffering,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever

**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus

**Dying you destroyed our death,**

**rising you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

[CWp186]

*Station XV: Jesus appear to over five hundred at once*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the first letter to the Corinthians (15.3-6)

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received. that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.



Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

### Reflection / Meditation

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### Prayer

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for your resurrection is a revelation to the whole world.

As you revealed yourself powerfully to so many,  
reveal yourself now as the hope for our world  
To you Lord Jesus, going beyond the limits of our understanding,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever

**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus

**Dying you destroyed our death,**

**rising you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

[CW p186]

### *Station XVI: Jesus commissions the Disciples on the mountain*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

### Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (28.16-20)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

### Reflection / Meditation

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### Prayer

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you took the risk of passing your mission to frail disciples.

As you commissioned them to go into all the world,  
so may all the world come to you, the King of nations.

To you Lord Jesus, with us to the end of the age,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

### *Station XVII: The Ascension*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

### **Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1.3-11)

After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

### **Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### **Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for in your Ascension you are crowned King of kings  
and Lord of lords.  
As we worship you on your heavenly throne  
prepare our hearts for the coming of your wild Spirit.  
To you Lord Jesus,  
who will come back in the same way you went up into heaven,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

### *Station XVIII: Pentecost*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

### **Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2.1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.'

### **Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

### **Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you promised that your disciples would be baptised  
with the Holy Spirit  
and now we see the fulfilment of your promise.  
Fill us afresh with your Spirit today, revive your Church,  
and renew the face of the earth.  
To you Lord Jesus, giving to your people the greatest gift of all,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

*Station XIX: Jesus appears to Saul*

Jesus is the resurrection and the life.  
**those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

**Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 9.1-19)

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized.

**Reflection / Meditation**

*Reflection or Meditation may follow.*

**Prayer**

We praise you and we bless you, our risen Lord Jesus, King of glory  
for you transformed the murderous Saul into the great apostle, Paul.  
As you revealed yourself to him on the road to Damascus  
reveal yourself afresh to your people journeying through this life.

To you Lord Jesus, who can fill even the emptiest of lives,  
be honour and glory, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*This acclamation may be used.*

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

[CW p186]

### **Response**

*At this point there may be an appropriate response to the preceding stations. This may be praise, penitence, intercession or some relevant action. This may be accompanied by silence or singing.*

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom in the word's our Saviour taught us.

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life.  
raise us, who trust in him  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things that are above  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### **Conclusion**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**He has given us new life and hope.  
He has raised Jesus from the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.  
**He has brought us out of darkness.  
He has made us light to the world.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**The Blessing**

God the Father,  
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead  
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life;  
and the blessing ...

**The Peace**

*These or other suitable words introduce the Peace*

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said 'Peace be with you'.  
Then were they glad to see the Lord. Alleluia!  
The peace of the risen Lord be always with you  
**And also with you**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace  
*The congregation may exchange the peace.*

## The Liturgy of Ascension Day

### Structure

#### *The Gathering*

The Greeting  
The Ascension Reading  
Gloria in Excelsis  
The Collect

#### *The Liturgy of the Word*

Reading(s)  
Psalm (optional)  
Gospel reading  
Sermon  
Affirmation of Faith  
Prayers of Intercession

#### *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace  
Preparation of the Table  
and taking of the Bread and Wine  
The Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer  
Breaking of the Bread  
Giving of Communion  
Prayer after Communion

#### *The Dismissal*

Reading  
Responsory  
Silence  
Blessing  
Dismissal

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers an anthem may be sung or the following response may be used*  
God has gone up with a shout,  
**the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.**

*Psalm 47.5*

[*The president may say*  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**]

## The Greeting

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

[CW p167]

*The President introduces the service using these, or other suitable words*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for forty days we have been celebrating with joyful hearts the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, his bursting from the tomb and his defeat of the power of sin and death. He appeared to his disciples many times and told them about the Kingdom of God.

Today we recall how he left this earth and returned to his Father, ascending into heaven to take his throne over all dominions and powers. Trusting in his reign over all creation, and submitting to his Kingly yet loving rule, let us hear the story of his parting.

## The Ascension Reading

*If possible this reading should not be read by the person leading this part of the service.*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1.6-11)

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

*At the end the reader says*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*A minister says*

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed through the heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us offer him the praise worthy of his name.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*Gloria in Excelsis may be used or a hymn of praise is sung.*



## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

Let us pray that our risen and ascended Lord will lead us to eternal life

*Silence may be kept.*

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that as we believe your only-begotten Son  
our Lord Jesus Christ  
to have ascended into the heavens,  
so we in heart and mind may also ascend  
and with him continually dwell;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p41]*

*or*

Risen Christ,  
you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven.  
help us to seek and serve you,  
that we may join you at the Father's side,  
where you reign with the Spirit in glory,  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p41]*

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

*This should include two readings, one of which should be the Gospel for the day. The Acts reading of the ascension should not be included in the Readings if this format is followed.*

## **Reading**

*Only one reading from scripture precedes the Gospel reading if the Acts reading has already been used.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**Canticle**

**All nations shall come and worship you, O Christ,  
and share in the feast of your kingdom.**

Great and wonderful are your deeds,  
Lord God the almighty.

Just and true are your ways,  
O ruler of the nations.

Who shall not revere and praise your name, O Lord?  
for you alone are holy.

All nations shall come and worship in your presence.  
For your just dealings have been revealed.

*Revelation 15.3,4*

To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honour and glory and might,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*[CW p800]*

**All nations shall come and worship you, O Christ,  
and share in the feast of your kingdom.**

**Gospel Reading**

*Either of these acclamations may herald the Gospel Reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.  
Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.  
**Alleluia. cw p318**

*or*

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**  
God has highly exalted Jesus Christ. **Alleluia!**  
At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow. **Alleluia!**  
Let ever tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. **Alleluia!**  
**[Glory to God the Father!]**

*cf Philippians 2.9-11*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*  
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The Nicene Creed is said.*

### Prayers of Intercession

Let us join our prayers with those of our Saviour Christ,  
seeking the Father's blessing and the gifts of the Spirit.

Jesus Christ, great high priest,  
living for ever to intercede for us,  
pray for the Church, your broken body in the world ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,  
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high,  
pray for the world, and make it subject to  
your gentle rule ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man,  
drawing humanity into the life of God,  
pray for your brothers and sisters in need,  
distress or sorrow ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,  
bringing us to glory through your death and resurrection,  
surround with your saints and angels  
those who have died trusting your promises ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord over all things,  
ascended far above the heavens and filling the universe,  
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us for  
work in your service ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ,  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order  
to worship at your feet;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father

and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns F61]*

*or*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
you have exalted your Son Christ Jesus to your right hand,  
and made him the head over all things for his body the Church:  
hear us as we pray for the Church throughout the world ...  
Make us and all your people receptive to the gifts he pours upon us,  
that we may use them to your glory,  
and the building up of the body of Christ.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Lord God Almighty, the Ancient of Days,  
you have given your Son all authority in heaven and on earth:  
hear us as we pray for the world he came to redeem ...  
Grant that we may know even in this time the things that make for peace,  
and may strive for the reconciliation of all people  
in his kingdom of justice and love.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Father of all, whose Son has promised to be with us always,  
to the end of the age:  
hear us as we pray for those among whom we live and work ...  
Grant that we may be so aware of his presence with us,  
that people may take note of us, that we have been with Jesus.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

O God our Redeemer, whose Son ever lives to make intercession for us:  
hear us as we pray for those in any kind of need ...  
May he who has borne our infirmities strengthen and heal them,  
that they may find grace to help in time of need,  
and rejoice in his salvation.  
Lord, in your mercy:  
**hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, whose Son has borne our humanity into the heavenly realms,  
and gone before us to prepare a place for us:  
hear us as we remember before you those whose earthly sojourn is over,  
and whose life is now hidden in him with you ...  
Make us joyful and expectant, that at his coming with all his own  
we too may go forth to meet him, and share in his eternal joy.

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

### *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

#### **The Peace**

Jesus says.  
‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father’. Alleluia.

*[CW p318]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 table**

#### **Taking of the bread and wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*This, or one of the other prayers at the preparation of the table 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.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[CW p293]*

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

#### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.  
One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ the King of glory.  
Born of a woman,  
he came to the rescue of our human race.  
Dying for us,  
he trampled death and conquered sin.  
By the glory of his resurrection  
he opened the way to life eternal  
and by his ascension,  
gave us the sure hope  
that where he is we may also be.  
Therefore the universe resounds with Easter joy  
and with choirs of angels we sing for ever to your praise.

[CW p319]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because, after his most glorious resurrection,  
he appeared to his disciples,  
and in their sight ascended into heaven  
to prepare a place for us;  
that where he is, thither we might also ascend,  
and reign with him in glory.

[CW p318]

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Lord, we died with you on the cross.  
**Now we are raised to new life.**  
We were buried in your tomb.  
**Now we share in your resurrection.**  
Live in us, that we may live in you.

[BAS (Canada)]

*Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*The president says*  
I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia!  
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.  
**Blessed are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia!**

[Enriching p53]

*or*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

[CW p180]

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be used.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The post communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

God our Father,  
you have raised our humanity in Christ  
and have fed us with the bread of heaven.  
mercifully grant that, nourished with such spiritual blessings,  
we may set our hearts in the heavenly places;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p404]

**We thank you, Lord,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament,  
united us with Christ,  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet  
prepared for all peoples.  
Amen.**

[CW p297]

### ***The Dismissal***

*A hymn may be sung.*

### **Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1.12-14)

Then the disciples returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. They were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

*No responses are used at the end of the reading.*

*Silence is kept.*

As we wait in silence  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we listen to your word  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we worship you in majesty  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your renewing  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your equipping  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering  
**Make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

*Silence may be kept or a reflective hymn may be sung.*

*The president may use the seasonal blessing, or another suitable blessing, or*  
God the Father,  
who has given to his Son the name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,  
plead for you at the right hand of the Father.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,  
make you faithful servants of Christ our king.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[CW p591]*

*or*  
May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.  
And the blessing.. .



*A minister says*

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**In the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*or*

Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit  
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

## **Notes**

### **Readings**

If the reading of the Ascension is used in The Gathering it should not be used in the Liturgy of the Word

### **The Dismissal**

This service begins a period of preparation for Pentecost. If there is to be a hymn after the Dismissal reading from the Acts of the Apostles it should be of a reflective rather than a triumphant nature.

### **Liturgical Colour**

White or Gold

## Introduction to Pentecost

Pentecost (from Greek *pentekoste*, ‘fiftieth’ of fifty days of celebration) has its roots in the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which was completed on the fiftieth day after Passover. On the fiftieth day of Easter, God sends his Holy Spirit to empower the Church to perform the mission which the risen Christ has entrusted to it; and he inaugurates the Messianic community of perfect communication. Pentecost celebrates both the Holy Spirit and the Christian Church. It was originally the crown and completion of the Easter season; only later, in the mediaeval West, did it become a new festival season of its own. After the Easter Vigil, the time of Pentecost was a preferred occasion for baptism in early Christian centuries, and the services of Pentecost also reflect this baptismal theme. Christ’s disciples are born again of water and the spirit. There is some evidence that the Ascension was first celebrated on the fiftieth day of Easter, but it was soon moved to the fortieth day in faithfulness to Luke’s chronology. Ascension and Pentecost are closely linked. The risen Lord is no longer present to the Church in the body of his flesh; the Church is now to be the new body of Christ, filled with his life through the gift of the Spirit.

The Sunday after Pentecost came to be kept in the West as Trinity Sunday, although it was not prescribed as a universal feast until 1334. In a sense, every feast must be a festival of the Trinity, because the whole Trinity is at work in every moment of creation, redemption, and sanctification; but Trinity Sunday provides a particular occasion to reflect on the revelation of God’s self as Trinity, immediately after the great fifty days of Easter. The numbering of the following Sundays “after Trinity” continues the practice of the *Book of Common Prayer*.

## Seasonal Material for use from Ascension to Pentecost

### Invitations to Confession

What God has prepared for those who love him,  
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;  
for the Spirit searches everything.  
Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,  
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

[CW p320]

or

The Spirit of truth will convict the world of guilt  
about sin, righteousness and judgement.  
We have grieved the Holy Spirit.  
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

[New Patterns B16]

or

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world  
and knows our every word and deed.  
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord  
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

[New Patterns B18]

*or*

Christ has gone up on high, leading captivity captive  
and bringing gifts for men.

As we prepare ourselves to meet him  
here in the courts of heaven  
let us call to mind our many failures and sins.

*[Nicholas Stebbing CR]*

**Kyrie Confessions**

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*[CW p133]*

*or*

Lord Jesus you suffered a cruel death on the Cross  
for our redemption,

yet we have forgotten your pain  
and stayed in the realm of the evil you defeated.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you were raised from death to bring us new life,  
yet we have preferred the comfort of the familiar,  
and the empty promises of a sinful world.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have ascended to your father and our father,  
you your God and our God;

plead there at the right hand of God for our forgiveness  
and entry into the fullness of his presence.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Nicholas Stebbing CR]*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia.**

*[CW p320]*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Go, and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord, and remember I am with you always to the end of the age

**Alleluia**

*Matthew 28.19-20*

### **Intercession**

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

Generous God,

we thank you for the *power* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to make us wise to understand your will.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness

where there is division, sickness and sorrow.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.

Lord, come to bless us.

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *fruit* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit given us by the risen Lord.

We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,

in the joy of eternal life.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,

you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan,

and upon the disciples in the upper room.  
in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,  
**hear our prayer,**  
**and make us one in heart and mind**  
**to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.**

*[Enriching p59-60]*

### **Introductions to the Peace**

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us  
and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*[CW p320]*

*or*

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.  
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.

*[ASB p170]*

### **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

Lord of all and source of our joy,  
Receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
Keep us in the love of Christ  
And bring us to the vision of his glory;  
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[BAS (Canada)\*]*

*or*

Father, by your Holy Spirit,  
you keep the Church in unity and truth.  
As we break bread together  
may we be one with Christ in faith and hope and love,  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*[APBA\*]*

### **Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
that, after he had ascended far above all heavens,  
and was seated at the right hand of your majesty,  
he sent forth upon the universal Church  
your holy and life-giving Spirit;  
that through his glorious power  
the joy of the everlasting Gospel might go forth into all the world.

*[CW p320]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because by the Holy Spirit you lead us into all truth,  
and give us power to proclaim your Gospel to the nations,  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.  
Therefore ...

[*New Patterns G125*]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues  
in the confession of one faith.  
You give us power to proclaim your Gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.  
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord ...**

[*Enriching p62*]

## **Extended Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For his our great High Priest  
who has entered once for all  
into the heavenly sanctuary.  
evermore to pour upon your Church  
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.  
He is the one who has gone before us,  
who calls us to be united in prayer  
as were his disciples in the upper room  
while they awaited his promised gift,  
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.  
Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing  
as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise.

[*CW p321*]

*For the Extended preface for the Day of Pentecost see The Liturgy of the Feast of Pentecost*

## **Blessings and Endings**

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth;  
give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord;  
and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God;  
and the blessing ...

[*CW p321*]

*or*

May the God of hope fill you  
with all joy and peace in believing,  
through the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p61]*

*or*

May the Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters when the world was created,  
breathe into you the life he gives.

**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who overshadowed the Virgin when the eternal Son came among us,  
make you joyful in the service of the Lord.

**Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the Day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[CW President's p594]*

**Acclamation**

[Christ has gone up on high.

**Alleluia.]**

God raised Christ from the dead  
**and enthroned him at his right hand in the heavenly realms.**

God put all things in subjection beneath his feet  
**and gave him as head over all things to the Church.**

We died, and our life lies hidden with Christ in God.

**We set our minds on things above.**

When Christ, who is our life, is revealed,  
**we too will be revealed with him in glory.**

[Christ has gone up on high.

**Alleluia.]**

*[New Patterns G39]*

**Short Passages of Scripture**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

**Matthew 28.19**

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Luke 24.50*

I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.'

*John 16.28*

While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

*Acts 1.10-11*

We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

*Romans 6.9*

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

*Romans 8.34*



## The Liturgy of the Feast of Pentecost

### Structure

#### *The Gathering*

The Greeting & Introduction  
The Pentecost Reading  
Prayer for Personal Renewal  
Gloria in Excelsis  
The Collect

#### *The Liturgy of the Word*

Reading(s)  
Psalm (optional)  
Gospel reading  
Sermon  
Affirmation of Faith  
Prayers of Intercession

#### *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace  
Preparation of the Table  
and taking of the Bread and Wine  
The Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer  
Breaking of the Bread  
Giving of Communion  
Prayer after Communion

#### *The Dismissal*

Blessing of Light  
Dismissal

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers an anthem may be sung or the following response may be used*

*The president may say*

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

### **The Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you. CW p167**

Alleluia! Christ is risen  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!.**

*The President introduces the service saying*

Jesus Christ, whom we worship, is our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and we have been privileged to walk with him through his journey of love.

We have faced the agony of his suffering and death on a cross.

We have rejoiced at his bursting free from the bonds of death.

We have enjoyed his risen presence with us and his revelation of himself through the breaking of bread.

We have seen his return to the throne before which every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that this Jesus is Lord.

And now, with the followers of his own time, we wait the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, his gift to his people, through whom we make Christ known to the world.

### **Responsory**

As we wait in silence  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we listen to your word  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we worship you in majesty  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your refreshing  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your renewing  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your equipping  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

As we long for your empowering  
**Fill us with your Spirit.**

*Silence is kept.*

### **Reading**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (2.1-13)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because

each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

*The reader says*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

### **Prayer for personal renewal**

*Prayer for personal renewal and anointing may be offered here. Oil of chrism may be used. Alternatively, oil blessed specially for the occasion may be used.*

*Oil may be brought forward, the bearer saying*

Oil for the renewal of God's people

*The President says*

Be with us Spirit of God;

**Nothing can separate us from your love.**

Breathe on us, breath of God;

**Fill us with your saving power.**

Speak in us wisdom of God;

**Bring strength, healing, and peace.**

*If oil is to be blessed specially for the occasion the president says the following prayer.*

Blessed are you, Sovereign God and eternal Father.

Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth

bringing strength out of weakness,

hope out of despair and life out of death.

By the power of your Spirit

may your blessing rest upon those

anointed with this oil in your name.

Let it be for them

a sign of your acceptance and adoption,

your equipping and empowering;

Form in them the likeness of Christ

that they may be witnesses of your astonishing love,

and fill them afresh with life in all its fullness.

Blessed be God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Those who wish to receive this ministry of prayer may come forward. Appropriate hymns and songs may be used.*

*When the prayer is ended the President says*  
Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
**Let us praise and bless God for ever!**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

**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.**

*[CW p171]*

**The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
Let us pray that the Spirit will work through our lives  
to bring Christ to the world.

God, who as at this time  
taught the hearts of your faithful people  
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit.  
grant us by the same Spirit  
to have a right judgement in all things  
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;  
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[CW:Collects p43]*

*or*  
Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,  
ignite in us your holy fire;  
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,

revive your Church with the breath of love,  
and renew the face of the earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW:Collects p43]

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **Readings**

*This should include two readings, one of which should be the Gospel for the day. Acts 2.1-13 should not be included in the Readings if it has been used earlier in the service.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle**

*A Song of Ezekiel or another suitable psalm or canticle may follow the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

**The Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.**

I will take you from the nations, \*  
and gather you from all the countries.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you, \*  
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses.

A new heart I will give you, \*  
and put a new spirit within you,

And I will remove from your body the heart of stone \*  
and give you a heart of flesh.

You shall be my people, \*  
and I will be your God.

*Ezekiel 36.24-26,28b*

**The Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.**

[CW p791]

### **Gospel Reading**

*Either of these acclamations may herald the Gospel Reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people  
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia.**

[CW p320]

*or*

Alleluia! **Alleluia!**

There are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit. **Alleluia!**

There are varieties of service but the same Lord. **Alleluia!**

We are all brought into one body by Baptism in the one Spirit. **Alleluia!**

**[Jesus is Lord!]**

*1 Corinthians 12.4,5;13.3*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*[CW p172]*

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

*The Nicene Creed is said.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

We pray for God to fill us with his Spirit.

Generous God,

we thank you for the *power* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask that we may be strengthened to serve you better.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *wisdom* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to help us understand better your will for us.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *peace* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to keep us confident of your love wherever you call us.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *healing* of your Holy Spirit.

We ask you to bring reconciliation and wholeness

where there is division, sickness and sorrow.

Lord, come to bless us

**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *gifts* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to equip us for the work which you have given us.  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *fruit* of your Holy Spirit.  
We ask you to reveal in our lives the love of Jesus.  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

We thank you for the *breath* of your Holy Spirit given on Easter Day.  
We ask you to keep the whole Church, living and departed,  
in the joy of eternal life.  
Lord, come to bless us  
**and fill us with your Spirit.**

Generous God,  
you sent your Holy Spirit upon your Messiah at the river Jordan,  
and upon the disciples in the upper room.  
in your mercy fill us with your Spirit,  
**hear our prayer,  
and make us one in heart and mind  
to serve you in Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*[Enriching p59-60]*

*Prayers of Penitence may be added at this point.*

### ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

#### **The Peace**

God has made us one in Christ.  
He has set his seal upon us  
and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*[CW p320]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

**Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*This or another prayer at the preparation of the table may be said.*

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

[CW p293]

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.  
One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ, your only Son our Lord.  
This day we give you thanks  
because in fulfilment of your promise  
you pour out your Spirit upon us,  
filling us with your gifts, leading us into all truth,  
and uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith.  
Your Spirit gives us grace to call you Father,  
to proclaim your Gospel to all nations  
and to serve you as a royal priesthood.  
Therefore we join our voices with angels and archangels,  
and with all those in whom the Spirit dwells,  
to proclaim the glory of your name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*.

[CW p321]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
that, after he had ascended far above all heavens,  
and was seated at the right hand of your majesty,  
he sent forth upon the universal Church your holy



and life-giving Spirit;  
that through his glorious power  
the joy of the everlasting Gospel might go forth  
into all the world.

[CW p321]

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

### **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.**

*Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*The president says*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

[CW p180]

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be used.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*This Post Communion or other suitable prayer is said.*

Faithful God,  
who fulfilled the promises of Easter  
by sending us your Holy Spirit  
and opening to every race and nation  
the way of life eternal.  
open our lips by your Spirit,  
that every tongue may tell of your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[CW p405]

## Blessing of Light and Conclusion

*The Ministers go to the Paschal Candle*

*A minister says*

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, overflowing in love.  
With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.  
Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.  
Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;  
the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.  
With the new wine of the Spirit  
they proclaim your reign of love.  
Amid the birth pangs of the new creation  
the way of light is made known.  
Source of freedom, giver of life,  
blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[Enriching p64\*]*

*Each member of the congregation has a candle which is lit. A hymn may be sung as the candles are lit.*

*When all the candles are lit the President says.*

For fifty days we have celebrated the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ over the powers of sin and death. We have proclaimed God's mighty acts and we have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from the dead might be at work in us.

As part of God's Church here in NI call upon you to live out what you proclaim.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit will you dare to walk into God's future trusting Him to be your guide?

**By the Spirit's power, we will.**

Will you dare to embrace each other and grow together in love?

**We will.**

Will you dare to share your riches in common and minister to each other in need?

**We will.**

Will you dare to pray for each other until your hearts beat with the longings of God?

**We will.**

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

**We will.**

*If there are no other services on this Feast the Paschal Candle may be extinguished in silence.*

*The President says*

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us**

Today we have remembered the coming of God's power on the disciples and we invite that

same Spirit to drive us out into the wild places of the world.

*Weather permitting the ministers and people process out of church, or to the back of church. A hymn may be sung.*

*The President blesses the people, saying*

May the Spirit,  
who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost,  
bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ.  
And the blessing ...

*A minister says*

Filled with the Spirit's power,  
go in the light and peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

# Trinity to All Saints

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## Trinity Sunday

### Invitations to Confession

Holy, holy, holy.  
When our eyes have seen the Lord of hosts  
    we echo the words of Isaiah,  
‘Woe is me! I am doomed’.  
We long for the fire of God’s cleansing  
    to touch our unclean lips,  
for our iniquity to be removed and our sins wiped out.  
So we meet Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
    with confession on our lips.

*[Enriching p68]*

*or*

‘How often have I longed to gather your children,  
as a hen gathers her brood under her wings,’ says the Lord  
‘but you would not come to me.’  
Let us as wayward children return to God  
and confess our sins.

*[Enriching p68]*

*or*

We have too often exchanged the worship of the living God for idols of our own imagining.  
As we gather to offer our praises to the holy and undivided Trinity, and to worship him in spirit  
and in truth, let us call to mind our sins.

### Kyrie Confessions

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit, you give us life and peace:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p68]*

*or*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
    the whole earth is full of his glory:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Woe is me, for I am lost: I am a person of unclean lips:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your guilt is taken away, and your sin forgiven:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p69]*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*[CW p406]*

*or*  
Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*[CW:Additional Collects]*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
one God, who was, and who is, and who is to come,  
the Almighty.  
**Alleluia.**

*[CW p322]*

### **Intercession**

We come boldly to the throne of grace,  
praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
for mercy and grace.  
**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Father of heaven, whose love profound  
a ransom for our souls has found:  
We pray for the world, created by your love,  
for its nations and governments...  
Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.  
**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Almighty Son, incarnate Word,  
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord:  
We pray for the church, created for your glory,  
for its ministry to reflect those works of yours...  
Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.  
**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath  
the soul is raised from sin and death:  
We pray for families and individuals, created in your image,  
for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying...  
Breathe on them the breath of life and bring them to your mercy and grace.  
**We plead before your throne in heaven.**

Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son,  
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One:  
We pray for ourselves,  
for your Church, for all whom we remember before you ...  
Bring us all to bow before your throne in heaven,  
to receive life and pardon, mercy and grace for all eternity  
as we worship you, saying  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Amen.**

*[Enriching p69]*

### **Introduction to the Peace**

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.  
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.  
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the Life-giver.

The peace of the triune God be always with you.  
**and also with you.**

*[CW p322]*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
give us the bread of everlasting life,  
and make us branches of the true vine.

**Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
 because you have revealed the glory of your eternal fellowship  
     of love with your Son and with the Holy Spirit,  
 three persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendour,  
 yet one God,  
 ever to be worshipped and adored.

[CW p322]

*or*

And now we give you thanks, most gracious God,  
 holy and undivided Trinity:  
 because you have given us the light of the knowledge of God  
 in the face of Jesus Christ,  
 that we may grow into your likeness,  
 and be changed from glory to glory.

**Extended Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
 always and everywhere to give you thanks  
 holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
 For with your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit  
 you are one God, one Lord.  
 All that you reveal of our glory,  
 the same we believe of the Son  
 and of the Holy Spirit, without any difference or inequality.  
 We, your holy Church, acclaim you,  
 Father of majesty unbounded,  
 your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
 and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
 Three Persons we adore,  
 one in being and equal in majesty.  
 And so with angels and archangels,  
 with cherubim and seraphim,  
 we sing for ever of your glory:

[CW p323]

**Post Communion**

Almighty and eternal God,  
 you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
 and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:  
 hold us firm in this faith,  
 that we may know you in all your ways  
 and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,  
 who are three Persons yet one God,  
 now and for ever.

[CW p407]



**Blessings and Ending**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing ...

*or*

The Lord bless you and keep you. **Amen.**

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you. **Amen.**

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you  
and give you peace. **Amen.**

The Lord God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
the holy and undivided Trinity,  
guard you, save you,  
and bring you to that heavenly city,  
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*[CW:President's p597]*

*or*

God the Father,  
who first loved us and made us accepted in the beloved Son,  
bless you. **Amen.**

God the Son,  
who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood,  
bless you. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who sheds abroad the love of God in our hearts,  
bless you. **Amen.**

The blessing of the one true God,  
to whom be all love and all glory for time and for eternity,  
come down upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p71]*

*or*

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise,  
more than we can utter, more than we can conceive,  
be to you, most holy and glorious Trinity,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
by all angels, all people, all creatures,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p77]*

## Acclamations

You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
**to receive glory and honour and power.**  
 For you have created all things,  
**and by your will they have their being.**  
 You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain,  
**and by your blood you ransomed us for God.**  
 From every tribe and language and nation:  
**you have made us to be a kingdom and priests serving our God.**  
 To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
**be blessing and honour, glory and might**  
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

[CW p794\*]

*or*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:  
**The whole earth is full of his glory.**  
 Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength;  
 ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name.  
**The whole earth is full of his glory.**  
 The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
**the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.**  
 Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts:  
**The whole earth is full of his glory.**

## Short Passages of Scripture

And one seraph called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

***Isaiah 6.3***

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

***Matthew 28.20***

If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him. Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

***John 14.7,9***

It is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

***2 Corinthians 4.6***

There are three that testify in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one.

***1 John 5.7***

The twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

“You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honour and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they existed and were created.”

*Revelation 4.10-11*

## **The Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion (Corpus Christi)**

### **Invitations to Confession**

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,  
and are in love and charity with your neighbours,  
and intend to lead a new life,  
following the commandments of God,  
and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:  
draw near with faith,  
and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;  
and make your humble confession to almighty God.

*[CW p256]*

*or*

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God's love,  
revealed in Word and Sacrament,  
let us call to mind our sins.

*or*

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord  
in an unworthy manner  
eats and drinks judgement upon themselves.  
Examine yourselves, therefore, and call to mind your sins.

*cf 1 Cor 11.27-29*

### **Kyrie Confessions**

Like as the hart longs for flowing streams,  
so longs my soul for you, O God:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

O send out your light and your truth,  
that they may lead me:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

May we come to your altar, O God,  
the God of our salvation:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

[Enriching p205]

*or*

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgive our sins:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

[Enriching p206]

Lord Jesus Christ,

we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament

you have given us the memorial of your passion:

Grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries

of your body and blood

that we may know within ourselves

and show forth in our lives

the fruits of your redemption;

for you are alive and reign with the Father

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

[CW p407]

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.

Whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

**Alleluia.**

**John 6.51**

### **Intercession**

We pray to the Lord.

In faith we pray:

**we pray to you our God.**

Lord, listen to the prayers of your people

gathered at your table.

In faith we pray:

**we pray to you our God.**

Here, where we celebrate how Christ gave us his body

to be our spiritual food:

Listen as we pray for his body the Church

spread throughout the world...  
In faith we pray:  
**we pray to you our God.**

Here, where we recognize the presence of Christ  
who takes away the sin of the world:  
Listen as we pray for that world  
and for its peoples for whom his blood was shed...  
In faith we pray:  
**we pray to you our God.**

Here, where we come together as Christ gathered  
with his friends  
to give us this meal of holy fellowship:  
Listen as we pray for all whom you have given us,  
our friends and all whose lives are joined with ours...  
In faith we pray:  
**we pray to you our God.**

Here, where we remember the night of Christ's agony and trial:  
Listen as we pray for all who share his sufferings  
through fear or pain or distress of many kinds...  
In faith we pray:  
**we pray to you our God.**

Here, where we join our praises  
with the whole company of heaven:  
Listen as we pray for all who have trusted Christ's promise  
to raise up on the last day  
those eat his flesh and drink his blood...  
In faith we pray:  
**we pray to you our God.**

Lord, fill our hunger with good food that lasts,  
the bread of God which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world,  
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p206-7]*

### **Introductions to the Peace**

We are the Body of Christ.  
In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.  
Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

*[CW p290]*

*or*  
Our Lord Jesus Christ says,  
If, when you are bringing your gift to the altar,  
you remember your brother or sister

has a grievance against you,  
leave your gift where it lies before the altar.  
Go, make peace;  
and only then come and offer your gift.

*[Promise p255]*

### **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

God our sustainer,  
receive the gifts we bring before you,  
and feed us continually with that bread which satisfies all hunger,  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

### **Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
because, having loved his own who were in the world,  
he loved them to the end;  
and on the night before he suffered,  
sitting at table with his disciples,  
he instituted these holy mysteries,  
that we, redeemed by his death  
and restored to life by his resurrection,  
might be partakers of his divine nature.

*[CW p314]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because when his hour had come,  
in his great love he gave this supper to his disciples,  
that we might proclaim his death,  
and feast with him in his kingdom.

*[ASB p155]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have made us a holy people  
in Jesus Christ our Lord;  
you renew that mystery in bread and wine  
to show forth your glory in all the world.

*[Promise p238]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because at the last supper  
as he sat at table with his apostles  
he gave us this memorial of his passion  
to bring us its saving power until the end of time.  
In this sacrament you feed your people  
and strengthen them in holiness,

so that the family of humankind  
may come to walk in the light of one faith,  
in one communion of love.

*[Enriching p210]*

### **Extended Preface**

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation  
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our great high priest.  
He offered himself to you as the Lamb without blemish,  
the acceptable gift that gives you perfect praise.  
At the Last Supper, seated with his apostles,  
he left this memorial of his passion  
to bring us its saving power until the end of time.  
In this great sacrament you feed your people  
and strengthen them in holiness,  
so that through out the world the human family  
may be enlightened by one faith  
and drawn together in one communion of love.  
We come to this foretaste of your heavenly banquet  
to be transformed by your grace  
and restored in the image and likeness of the risen Christ.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

*[ICEL\*]*

### **Post Communion**

All praise to you, our God and Father,  
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:  
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,  
we may grow together in unity  
and feast with him in his kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[CW p407]*

### **Blessings and Ending**

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread,  
make you one in praise and love,  
and raise you up at the last day;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW p299]*

*or*

May the Father,  
who fed his children with manna in the wilderness,  
strengthen you in your pilgrimage to the Promised Land.  
**Amen.**

May the Son,  
who gave his flesh for food and his blood for drink,  
keep you in eternal life and raise you upon on the last day.  
**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
who leads us into all truth,  
help you discern the Lord's body  
and empower you to proclaim his death until he comes.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J106\*]*

*or*

Wisdom has set her table;  
she calls from the highest place in the city,  
'Come, eat my bread and drink the wine I have mixed.  
Leave your foolishness; walk in the way of understanding.'  
**I will go to the altar of God  
even to the God of my joy and gladness.**

*[Enriching p213]*

### **Acclamations**

I am the bread of life,  
anyone who comes to me shall not hunger,  
anyone who believes in me shall never thirst.  
**Alleluia! Lord, give us this bread always.**  
The bread of God comes down from heaven,  
and gives life to the world.  
**Alleluia! Lord, give us this bread always.**  
Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life  
and I will raise them up on the last day.  
**Alleluia! Lord, give us this bread always.**  
It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is of no avail.  
The words I speak, they are spirit and they are life.  
**Alleluia! Lord, give us this bread always.**

*[Enriching]*

### **Short Passages of Scripture**

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.  
**1 Cor 11.26**



Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

**John 6.35**

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**1 Cor 10.16-17**

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. He had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

**Luke 24.31a, 35**

## **Dedication Festival**

### **Invitation to Confession**

We are a temple of God's indwelling Holy Spirit,  
yet we have grieved him.  
The temple of our bodies does not belong to us,  
but was bought at the price of Christ's precious blood.  
So we come, in sorrow yet with confidence,  
to ask forgiveness of our Father in heaven.

*[Enriching p92]*

### **Kyrie Confession**

Zeal for your house has eaten me up:  
and the taunts of those who taunt you have fallen upon me.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God:  
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

The Lord will defend your coming out and your coming in:  
from this time forward for evermore.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p92-3]*

Almighty God,  
to whose glory we celebrate the dedication  
of this house of prayer:  
we praise you for the many blessings  
you have given to those who worship you here:  
and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you,

and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,  
may become a living temple acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

[CW p446]

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Lord, we have loved the habitation of your house,  
and the place where your glory dwells.  
**Alleluia.**

### **Intercession**

The risen Christ is here in the midst of us.  
We bring our prayers to him as Lord of the Church.

For the Church universal,  
of which these buildings are a visible symbol,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For this congregation  
as we remember your promise that when two or three  
are gathered in your name you are there in the midst of them,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For this place that we may be still and know that you are God,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the fulfilling of our desires and petitions as you see best for us,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For your blessings in the past and for a vision for the future,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the gift of the Holy Spirit and new life in baptism,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the pardon of our sins when we fall short of your glory,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For a foretaste of your eternal kingdom  
in the sacrament of the eucharist,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the blessing of our vows and the crowning of our years  
with your goodness,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the faith of those who have gone before us  
and for grace to persevere like them,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For the benefactors of this place who have died  
in the peace of Christ and are at rest,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

For a sense of our fellowship with (N our patron and) all your saints,  
**Lord, receive our thanks and prayer.**

O God, from living stones  
you prepare an everlasting dwelling-place for your majesty.  
Grant that in the power of the Holy Spirit  
those who serve you here  
may always be kept within your presence.  
This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p93\*]*

### **Introduction to the Peace**

Peace to this house from God our heavenly Father.  
Peace to this house from his Son who is our peace.  
Peace to this house from the Holy Spirit the Life-giver.

*[Enriching p95]*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Lord, teach us how to repay you  
for your goodness towards us.  
We will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call upon your name. **Amen.**

### **Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
for your blessing on this house of prayer,  
where through your grace we offer you the sacrifice of praise  
and are built by your Spirit into a temple made without hands,  
even the body of your Son Jesus Christ.

*[CW:President's p599]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks that,  
though the heaven of heavens cannot contain you,  
and your glory is in all the world,  
yet you chose to hallow places for your worship,  
and in them you pour forth gifts of grace  
upon your faithful people.

*[CW:President's p599\*]*

## Extended Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
Always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
enthroned upon the praises of your people.  
We thank you for this house of prayer  
in which you bless your family  
as we come to you in pilgrimage.  
Here you reveal your presence in sacramental signs,  
and make us one with you  
through the unseen bond of grace.  
Here you build your temple of living stones,  
and bring the Church to its full stature  
as the body of Christ throughout the world,  
to reach its perfection at last  
in the heavenly city of Jerusalem,  
which is the vision of your peace.  
Therefore, in union with the heavenly Jerusalem,  
with angels in joyful assembly,  
with all whose names are written in heaven,  
and with the spirits of the righteous made perfect,  
we lift up our voices to join in the triumphal song of praise:

## Post Communion

Father in heaven,  
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,  
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:  
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage  
that, fed with the living bread of heaven,  
and united in the body of your Son,  
we may be the temple of your presence,  
the place of your glory on earth,  
and a sign of your peace in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[CW p446]*

## Blessings and Ending

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens,  
fill this house and illuminate your hearts;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p95]*

*or*

God bring you to the home  
that Christ prepares for all who love him. **Amen.**

God give you the will to live each day

in life eternal. **Amen.**  
God give you the citizenship of heaven,  
with his blessed and beloved,  
and the whole company of the redeemed. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

[Enriching p95]

*or*

God bless this church and parish,  
and prosper our desire to be faithful  
and to draw others to him,  
for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

[Enriching p99]

### **An Alternative Dismissal for a Dedication Festival**

*After the post-Communion prayers a Hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be used*

#### **Acclamation**

How awesome is this place.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

I saw a ladder which rested on the ground  
with its top reaching to heaven  
and the angels of God were going up and down it.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

You will see greater things than this.  
You will see heaven wide open,  
And God's angels ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

You are the temple of the living God  
And the Spirit of God dwells in you.  
The temple of God is holy, and you are that temple.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

[Enriching p94]

*The Dismissal Gospel*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said], ‘...the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’

*John 4.23-24*

*At the end the reader says*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Blessing*

God bring you to the home  
that Christ prepares for all who love him. **Amen.**

God give you the will to live each day  
in eternal life. **Amen.**

God grant you the citizenship of heaven,  
with his blessed and beloved,  
and the whole company of heaven. **Amen.**

And the blessing...

*Dismissal*

Like living stones, precious in his sight,  
go in peace to proclaim the mighty acts of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Acclamations*

How awesome is this place!  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven!**

I saw a ladder which rested on the ground  
with its top reaching to heaven  
and the angels of God were going up and down it.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven!**

You will see greater things than this.  
You will see heaven wide open,  
and God’s angels ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

You are the temple of the living God,  
and the Spirit of God dwells in you.  
The temple of God is holy, and you are that temple.  
**This is none other than the house of God,  
and this is the gateway of heaven.**

*[Enriching p94]*

### **Short Passages of Scripture**

How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

***Genesis 28.17***

We have waited on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.

***Psalms 48.9***

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain.

***Psalms 127.1***

God is spirit and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

***John 4.24***

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

***1 Peter 2.5***

# All Saints to Advent

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## Introduction to the Season

No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, in a mutual belonging which transcends the apparent separation of death:

Still we are centred all in thee,  
Members, though distant, of one Head;  
In the same family we be,  
By the same faith and spirit led. (Richard Baxter)

All Saints' Day celebrates men and women in whose lives we have seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, and for the wonderful ends to which it shapes a human life; it is a time to be encouraged by the example of the saints; and it is a chance to recall that sanctity may grow in the ordinary circumstances, as well as the extraordinary crises, of human living. All Souls' Day turns our attention to those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life, or nurtured us in faith, and whom we remember with thanksgiving. Christ has shown that love is stronger than death; this is a truth not simply about individual persons, but about a new humanity incorporated in Christ. Remembrance Sunday continues the theme of memory, as we confront issues of war and peace, loss and self-gift, memory and forgetting.

The annual cycle of the church's year now ends with the Feast of Christ the King. The year that begins with the hope of the coming Messiah ends with the proclamation of his universal sovereignty: Christ is Lord of earth and heaven. Final judgement is one of Christ's proper kingly purposes; the Feast of Christ the King returns us to the Advent theme of judgement, with which the cycle may once more begin.

## Seasonal Material

### Invitations to Confession

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.  
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Matthew 3.2 [CW p326]*

*or*

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love  
with all the saints in earth and heaven.  
Knowing our unworthiness and sin,  
let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

*[Promise p52]*

*or*

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;  
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;  
its evil distortions and hatreds.  
Let us confess our share in what is wrong,  
and our failure to seek and establish peace  
which God wills for all his children.

*[Promise p84]*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*or*  
Turn to us again, O God our Saviour,  
and let your anger cease from us.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
and grant us your salvation.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your salvation is near for those that fear you,  
that glory may dwell in our land.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*or*  
**Lord God,**  
**we have sinned against you;**  
**we have done evil in your sight.**  
**We are sorry and repent.**  
**Have mercy on us according to your love.**  
**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**  
**Renew a right spirit within us**  
**and restore us to the joy of your salvation,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns B48]*

**Gospel Acclamations**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 19.38 [CW p326]*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
**Alleluia.**

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Jesus Christ is the first-born from the dead;  
to him be glory and power for ever and ever.  
**Alleluia.**

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Stay awake, praying at all time  
for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.  
**Alleluia.**

**Intercession**

We pray for the coming of God's kingdom.

You sent your Son to bring news to the poor,  
sight to the blind, freedom to captives  
and salvation to your people:  
anoint us with your Spirit;  
rouse us to work in his name:  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to bring help to the poor and freedom to the oppressed:  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to tell the world the good news of your healing love:  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to those who mourn  
to bring joy and gladness instead of grief:  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Send us to proclaim that the time is here  
for you to save your people:  
Father, by your Spirit  
**bring in your kingdom.**

Lord of the Church  
**hear our prayer,  
and make us one in mind and heart  
to serve you in Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*[New Patterns F72\*]*

*or*

Jesus our exalted Lord has been given all authority.  
Let us seek his intercession  
that our prayers may be perfected by his prayer.

Jesus Christ, great high priest, living for ever to intercede for us:  
pray for your Church, your broken body in the world...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, king of righteousness,  
enthroned at the right hand of the majesty on high:  
pray for the world, and make it subject to your gentle rule...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Son of Man, drawing humanity into the life of God:  
pray for your brothers and sisters in need, distress or sorrow...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, pioneer of our salvation,  
bringing us to your glory through your death and resurrection:  
receive into your presence those who have died  
trusting in your promises...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, Lord of all things,  
ascended far above from the heavens and filling the universe:  
pray for us who receive the gifts you give us  
for work in your service...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Jesus Christ, first fruits of the new creation,  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,

until you bring the whole created order to worship at your feet;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*or*

United in the company of all the faithful  
and looking for the coming of the kingdom,  
let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord, strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit  
that we may live as a royal priesthood  
and a holy nation to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless *N* our bishop and all ministers of your Church,  
that by faithful proclamation of your word  
we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets  
into a holy temple in the Lord.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Empower us by the gift of your Holy and life-giving Spirit  
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ  
from glory to glory.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Give to the world and its peoples the peace that comes from above,  
that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love  
in the service of the poor and needy;  
all who minister to the sick and dying;  
and all who bring light to those in darkness.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin  
or disfigured by pain,  
that, raised from death to life in Christ,  
their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.  
Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us  
who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity;  
preserve in your faith your servants on earth,  
guide us to your kingdom,

and grant us your peace at all times.  
Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Hasten the day when many  
will come from east and west, from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom.  
Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks  
for the whole company of your saints in glory,  
with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises;  
by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect in your love.

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

*[Promise p53]*

### **Introductions to the Peace**

To crown all things there must be love,  
to bind all together and complete the whole.  
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

*Colossians 3.14,15 [CW p326]*

*or*

May the God of peace sanctify you:  
may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness  
that you may be blameless before him  
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints.

*1 Thessalonians 5.23; 3.13 [CW p328]*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

To you we come, Father of lights,  
with angels and saints,  
where heaven and earth unite.  
May Jesus meet us in the breaking of the bread.

### **Prefaces**

And now we give you thanks  
that he is the King of glory,  
who overcomes the sting of death  
and opens the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

He is seated at your right hand in glory  
and we believe that he will come to be our judge.

[CW p326]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because in him you have received us as your sons and daughters,  
joined us in one fellowship with the saints,  
and made us citizens of your kingdom.

[New Patterns G143]

## **Extended Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy  
that we should always sing of your glory,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
For you are the hope of the nations,  
the builder of the city that is to come.  
Your love made visible in Jesus Christ  
brings home the lost,  
restores the sinner  
and gives dignity to the despised.  
In his face your light shines out,  
flooding lives with goodness and truth,  
gathering into one in your kingdom  
a divided and broken humanity.  
Therefore with all who can give voice in your creation  
we glorify your name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

[CW p327]

## **Blessings and Ending**

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p327]

*or*

May Christ who makes saints of sinners,  
who has transformed those we remember today,  
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;  
and the blessing ...

[Enriching p143]

*or*

May God give to you and to all those whom you love  
his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy,  
in this world and the next;  
and the blessing...

[Promise p72]

*or*

May God,  
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

**Amen.**

May he give you joy in their fellowship  
and a share in their praises.

**Amen.**

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness  
and to come to the full radiance of glory.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[CW:President's p601]*

*or*

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
**for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.**  
Yours, Lord, is the kingdom:  
**and you are exalted as head over all. Amen.**

*[New Patterns 119\*]*

## **The Eucharist of All Saints**

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung. The president may say*

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

### **The Greeting**

*The president greets the people*  
Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said, including the following sentence:*

Rejoice, people of God, praise the Lord! Let us keep the feast in honour of all God's saints, in  
whose victory the angels rejoice and glorify the Son of God.

*[Promise p48]*



## Prayers of Penitence

*A minister uses these or other suitable words*

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses,  
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,  
looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

*Hebrews 12.1 [CW p324]*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*or another authorised form of confession may be used.*

*The president says*

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.**

*[CW p170]*

## Gloria in Excelsis or The Beatitudes

*Gloria in Excelsis or the Beatitudes may be used.*

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*

Let us pray that we may be strengthened by our communion  
with all the saints.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty God,  
you have knit together your elect  
in one communion and fellowship  
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:  
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints  
in all virtuous and godly living

that we may come to those inexpressible joys  
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW p422]

*or*  
God of holiness,  
your glory is proclaimed in every age:  
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,  
inspire us to follow their example  
with boldness and joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[CW:Additional Collects]

### ***The Liturgy of the Word***

#### **Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

#### **Gospel Reading**

*This acclamation may herald the Gospel reading*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, God's own people,  
called out of darkness into his marvellous light.

**Alleluia!**

[CW p324]

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### **Sermon**

*An authorized translation of the Nicene Creed is used.*

**Prayers of Intercession**

United in the company of all the faithful  
and looking for the coming of the kingdom,  
let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord,  
strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit  
that we may live as a royal priesthood  
and a holy nation to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Bless *N* our bishop, and all ministers of your Church,  
that by faithful proclamation of your word we may be built  
on the foundation of the apostles and prophets  
into a holy temple in the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Empower us by the gift of your Holy and Life-giving Spirit  
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ  
from glory to glory.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Give to the world and its peoples the peace that comes from above,  
that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love  
in the service of the poor and needy;  
all those who minister to the sick and dying;  
and all who bring light to those in darkness.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin  
or disfigured by pain, that, raised from death to life in Christ,  
their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us  
who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity;  
preserve in your faith your servants on earth,  
guide us to your kingdom,  
and grant us your peace at all times.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Hasten the day when many will come  
from east and west, from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We give you thanks for the whole company  
of your saints in glory,  
with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises;  
by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect in your love.  
**Blessing and glory and wisdom,  
thanksgiving and honour and power,  
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.**

*[New Patterns F75]*

### ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

#### **The Peace**

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord,  
who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near.

*Ephesians 2.19,17 [CW p324]*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

#### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*This prayer may be said.*  
As the grain scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table  
in bread and wine,

so, Lord, may your whole Church  
soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth  
with all your saints into your kingdom. **Amen.**

[CW p292]

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.  
One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

And now we give you thanks  
for the glorious pledge of the hope of our calling  
which you have given us in your saints;  
that, following their example and strengthened by their fellowship,  
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us,  
and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.

[CW p324]

*or*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
And now we give thanks, most gracious God,  
surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses  
and glorified in the assembly of your saints.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
We, your holy Church, acclaim you.  
In communion with angels and archangels,  
and with all who served you on earth  
and worship you now in heaven,  
we raise our voice to proclaim your glory,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

[CW p325]

## **The Lord's Prayer**

With saints and martyrs through the ages,  
as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

## **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 may be used as the bread is broken.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*The president says this or another invitation to communion*  
I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia!  
The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.  
**Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

*[Promise p57]*

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be used.*

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies **Amen.***

*The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept.*

*The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said*

Lord of heaven,  
in this eucharist you have brought us near  
to an innumerable company of angels  
and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:  
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage  
we have shared their fellowship,  
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[CW p423]*

*One of the prayers on page 00 may be said*

### **An Alternative Dismissal for the Feast of All Saints**

*After the post-communion prayers a hymn may be sung and/or the following acclamation may be used*

### **Acclamation**

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:  
**There is no end of his greatness.**

One generation shall praise your works to another:  
**And shall declare your power.**

All your works praise you, Lord:  
**And your faithful servants bless you.**

They make known the glory of your kingdom:  
**And speak of your power.**

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:  
**Let everything bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

*[BAS (Canada)\*]*

***The Dismissal Gospel***

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said], ‘I have made your name known to those you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.’

*John 17.6-9.*

*At the end the reader says*  
This is the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Blessing***

May God,  
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.  
**Amen.**

May he give you joy in their fellowship  
and a share in their praises.  
**Amen.**

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness  
and to come to the full radiance of glory.  
**Amen.**  
And the blessing ...

*[CW President's p601]*

***Dismissal***

Following God's saints in the ways of holiness and truth, go...

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Rejoice, people of God, praise the Lord! Let us keep the feast in honour of all God's saints in whose victory the angels rejoice and glorify the Son of God.

You have come to mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to the spirits of the just made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

*Hebrews 12.22-24*

Do not abandon me, Lord. My God do not go away from me! Make haste to help me, Lord, my Saviour.

*Psalms 38.21, 22*

Lord, you will show me the path of life and fill me with joy in your presence.

*Psalms 16.11*

Let my prayer come before you, O Lord; deliver me according to your promise.

*Psalms 119.170*

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. In green pastures he gives me rest, he leads me beside the waters of peace.

*Psalms 23.1, 2*

When you call me I will listen, says the Lord. I will bring you back from your place of exile.

*Jeremiah 29.12, 14*

I tell you solemnly, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours, says the Lord.

*Mark 11.24*

The Lamb who was slain is worthy to receive strength and divinity, wisdom and power and honour; to him be glory and power for ever.

*Revelation 5.12*

Be assured of this - God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ. He has exalted him, and given him a name above every name.

*Acts 2.36; Philippians 2.9*



## **The Eucharist of the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)**

### ***The Gathering***

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung. The president may say*

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

*[CW p167]*

### **The Greeting**

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

*[CW p167]*

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

### **The Prayers of Penitence**

*A minister uses these or other suitable words*

God has shone in our hearts  
to give the light of the knowledge of his glory  
in the face of Christ.  
But we have this treasure in earthen vessels  
to show that the transcendent power belongs to God  
and not to us.

As we acknowledge our human frailty,  
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission,  
and confess them before God our Father.

*[Promise p62]*

**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.**

[CW p276]

*or*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the sinner:  
Christ, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You bring light to those in darkness:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

[CW p133]

May almighty God have mercy on *you*,  
forgive *you your* sins,  
and bring *you* to everlasting life. **Amen.**

[CW p279]

*or*

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.**

[CW p170]

## **The Collect**

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words*  
Let us pray for the peace and well-being of the whole Church.

*Silence is kept.*

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer,  
grant us, with all the faithful departed,  
the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion  
and glorious resurrection  
that, in the last day,  
when you gather up all things in Christ,  
we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

[CW:President's p344]

## ***The Liturgy of the Word***

### **Readings**

*Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The psalm or canticle follows the first reading; other hymns and songs may be used between the readings.*

### **Gospel Reading**

*This acclamation may herald the Gospel reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

It is the will of him who sent me, says the Lord,  
that I should lose nothing  
of all that he has given me,  
but raise it up on the last day.

*John 6.38*

**Alleluia.**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray to the Lord, who has conquered death.

Jesus, bread from heaven,  
you satisfy the hungry with good things:  
grant us a share with all the faithful departed  
in the banquet of your kingdom.

Hear us, risen Lord,  
**our resurrection and our life.**

Jesus, the light of the world,  
you gave the man born blind the gift of sight:  
open the eye of faith  
and bring us from darkness  
to your eternal light and glory.

Hear us, risen Lord,  
**our resurrection and our life.**

Jesus, Son of the living God,  
you summoned your friend Lazarus from death to life:  
raise us at the last to full and eternal life with you.

Hear us, risen Lord,  
**our resurrection and our life.**

Jesus, crucified Saviour,  
in your dying you entrusted each to the other,  
Mary your mother and John your beloved disciple:  
sustain and comfort all who mourn.

Hear us, risen Lord,  
**our resurrection and our life.**

Jesus, our way and truth and life,  
you drew your disciple Thomas from doubt to faith:  
reveal the resurrection faith to the doubting and the lost.

Hear us, risen Lord,  
**our resurrection and our life.**

May God in his infinite love and mercy  
bring the whole Church,  
living and departed in the Lord Jesus,  
to a joyful resurrection  
and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

*[New Patterns F74]*

### ***The Liturgy of the Sacrament***

### **The Peace**

Jesus says:  
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
Not as the world gives give I unto you.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled,  
neither let them be afraid.

*[CW:President's p619]*

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you  
**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 Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.*

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

*This prayer may be said.*

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement;  
draw us from hatred to love;  
make the frailty of our praise  
a dwelling place for your glory.  
**Amen.**

*[CW p293 no.11]*

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

*The president uses one of the authorized eucharistic prayers.*  
*One of the following proper prefaces may be used where appropriate.*

And now we give you thanks  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
In him who rose from the dead  
our hope of resurrection dawned.  
The sting of death has been drawn  
by the glorious promise of his risen life.

*[CW:President's p620]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because through him you have given us  
the hope of a glorious resurrection;  
so that, although death comes to us all,  
yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life;  
for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away;  
and when our mortal flesh is laid aside,  
an everlasting dwelling place  
is made ready for us in heaven.

*[CW:President's p620]*

*or*

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth,  
giver of life, and conqueror of death.  
By his death on the cross,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
offered the one true sacrifice for sin,  
breaking the power of evil  
and putting death to flight.  
Through his resurrection from the dead  
you have given us new birth into a living hope,  
into an inheritance which is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading.  
The joy of resurrection fills the universe,  
and so we join with angels and archangels,  
with all your faithful people,  
evermore praising you and *saying*:

*[CW:President's p620-1\*]*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,  
as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

*The Lord's Prayer is said.*

### **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Jesus is the living bread which came down from heaven:  
if anyone eats of this bread, they will live for ever.

**Lord, give us this bread always.**

*[Promise p69]*

*The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.*

### **Giving of Communion**

*The president says*

I am the bread of life, says the Lord;  
Whoever comes to me will never hunger;  
Whoever believes in me will never thirst.

I am the vine: you are the branches.  
**May we dwell in him as he lives in us.**

*[Promise p69]*

*The Prayer of Humble Access may be said.*

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies **Amen.***

*During the distribution hymns, carols and anthems may be sung. The Common Worship provision is followed for consecration of additional bread and wine and for disposing of what remains.*

### ***The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed***

Glory and honour and power:  
are yours by right, O Lord our God;

**For you created all things:  
and by your will they have their being.**

Glory and honour and power:  
are yours by right, O Lamb who was slain:

**For by your blood you have ransomed for God  
a kingdom of priests from every race and language,  
from every people and nation.**

*The names of those to be remembered may be read aloud. Silence may be kept after each name, or group of names, or after all the names have been read.*

*These words are used: either*

#### **A**

This is the will of him that sent me  
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me,  
**and I will raise them up at the last day.**

*[Promise p70]*

Lord God, creator of all,  
you have made us creatures of this earth,  
but have also promised us a share in life eternal.  
According to your promises,  
may all who have died in the peace of Christ  
share with your saints in the joy of heaven  
where there is neither sorrow nor pain,  
but life everlasting.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

*[D.Silk, Prayers for use at the Alternative Services: Promise p70\*]*

Grant to us, Lord God,  
to trust you not for ourselves alone,  
but for those also whom we love  
and who are hidden from us by the shadow of death;  
that, as we believe your power to have raised  
our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead,

so may we trust your love to give eternal life  
to all who believe in him;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[D.Silk, Prayers for use at the Alternative Services: Promise p71\*]*

or

**B**

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with the saints:  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all:  
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth,  
and unto earth shall we return.  
For so you ordained when you created me, saying:  
'Dust you are, and to dust you shall return.'  
All of us go down to the dust,  
yet weeping at the grave we make our song:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with the saints,  
where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

*[CW:Pastoral p377]*

Hear us, O merciful Father,  
as we remember in love  
those whom we have placed in your hands.  
Acknowledge, we pray, the sheep of your own fold,  
lambs of your own flock,  
sinners of your own redeeming.  
Enfold them in the arms of your mercy,  
in the blessed rest of everlasting peace,  
and in the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

*[Promise p80 (cf CW:Pastoral p376)]*

**Prayer after Communion**

God of love,  
may the death and resurrection of Christ  
which we have celebrated in this eucharist  
bring us, with the faithful departed,  
into the peace of your eternal home.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our rock and our salvation,  
to whom be glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

*[CW:President's p190]*

*One of the prayers on page 00 may be said.*



***The Dismissal***

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The president says one of these blessings.*

May God give to *you*  
his comfort and his peace,  
his light and his joy,  
in this world and the next;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW:President's p623]*

*or*

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW:President's p589]*

God the Father,  
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,  
open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,  
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,  
empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[CW:President's p623]*

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*[CW p183]*

*or*

Neither death nor life  
can separate us from the love of God  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*[Promise p73\*]*

*The ministers and people depart.*

## Remembrance Sunday

### Introduction

[A Remembrance Sunday service, first commended for general use by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster and the Moderator of the Free Church Federal Council in 1968 and revised in 1984, is widely available.]

The following supplementary resources are provided for use at Holy Communion, Morning or Evening Prayer or A Service of the Word.

### Invitation to Confession

Let us confess to God the sins and shortcomings of the world;  
its pride, its selfishness, its greed;  
its evil divisions and hatreds.  
Let us confess our share in what is wrong,  
and our failure to seek and establish that peace  
which God wills for his children.

*[An Order for Remembrance Sunday: Promise p84]*

### Introduction to the Peace

Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.

*John 14.27*

### An Act of Remembrance

Let us remember before God,  
and commend to his safe keeping:  
those who have died for their country in war;  
[those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure;]  
and all who have lived and died  
in the service of the peoples of the world.

*[Promise p88\*]*

*A list of those to be remembered by name may then be read.*

*Then may be said*

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.

**We will remember them.**

*[Promise p88]*

[The Last Post]

The Silence

[Reveille]

Almighty and eternal God,  
from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted,  
either by death or life:  
Hear our prayers and thanksgivings  
for all whom we remember this day;  
fulfil in them the purpose of your love;  
and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Promise p89]*

*The Kohima Epitaph may be read*

When you go home,  
tell them of us and say:  
For your tomorrow  
we gave our today.

### **Blessing**

God grant to the living, grace;  
to the departed, rest;  
to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth and all the world,  
peace and concord;  
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J60\*]*

### **Short Passages of Scripture**

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

*Psalms 46.1*

Our help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.

*cf Psalms 121.2*

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

*Matthew 5.9*

Jesus said, In the world you will face persecution.  
But take courage; I have overcome the world.

*John 16.33*

## Christ the King

### Invitation to Confession

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand'.  
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,  
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*cf Matt 3.2 [CW p326]*

### Kyrie Confession

The kingdom is yours.  
But we turn away from your just rule.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

The power is yours.  
But we trust in our own power and strength.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

The glory is yours.  
But we fall short of the glory of God.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*or*

**O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you  
to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*cf Isaiah 6 [CW p125]*

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven. *Luke 19:38*  
**Alleluia.**

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
**Alleluia.**

## Intercession

Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications to the throne of grace.

We pray for all those in positions of power,  
that they may govern with wisdom and integrity,  
serving the needs of their people.

May your reign come;  
**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for the Church, the sign of your reign,  
that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background.  
May your kingdom come;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for Christians of every denomination,  
that together we may come to understand the royal priesthood  
you bestowed on us in baptism.  
May your dominion come;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for those whose commitment to truth  
brings them into conflict with earthly powers,  
that they may have the courage to endure.  
May your rule come;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community of faith,  
that attentive to your word,  
we may always worship in spirit and in truth.  
May your reign come;

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Loving God,  
you have taught us that the power of the heart  
is greater than the power of wealth and might.  
Hear us as we pray for the fulfilment of your reign.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our King;  
to him be glory and power forever. **Amen.**

*[Gail Ramshaw (ed), Intercessions for the Christian People p138]*

## Introduction to the Peace

To crown all things there must be love,  
to bind all together and complete the whole.  
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

*cf Colossians 3.14, 15 [New Patterns H35]*

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Blessed be God,  
who enthrones us with Christ in the heavenly realms.  
May we feed upon the bread of God  
and drink the royal wine of heaven.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Prefaces

And now we give you thanks  
because you anointed Jesus Christ,  
your only Son, as priest and king.  
Crowned with thorns, he offered his life upon the cross,  
that he might draw all people into that kingdom  
where he now reigns in glory.

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because you anointed Jesus Christ, your only Son,  
as the eternal priest and king of all.  
As a priest he offered up his life on the cross,  
that by his one sacrifice he might present to you an eternal kingdom;  
a kingdom of truth and life;  
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

## Extended Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
For with the oil of gladness  
you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son,  
to be our great high priest and king of all creation.  
As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the cross  
and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace.  
As king he claims dominion over all your creatures,  
that he may bring before your infinite majesty  
a kingdom of truth and life,  
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.  
And so with angels and archangels  
and all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory and join their unending hymn of praise:

[CW p327]

## Post Communion

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,

may by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[CW p426]

### **Blessings**

Christ our exalted King pour upon you his abundant gifts  
and bring you to reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p319\*]

*or*

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing ...

[New Patterns J89]

*or*

God the Father,  
who has given to his Son the name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord. **Amen.**

God the Son,  
who is our great high priest passed into the heavens,  
plead for you at the right hand of the Father. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church,  
make you faithful servants of Christ the King. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

[CW:President's p591]

### **Acclamations**

Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
**and the King of Glory shall come in.**  
'Who is the King of Glory?'  
**'The Lord, strong and mighty,**  
**the Lord who is mighty in battle.**  
Lift up your heads O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;  
**and the King of glory shall come in.**  
'Who is this King of glory?'  
**'The Lord of hosts,**  
**he is the King of glory.'**

**Short Passages of Scripture**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

*Mark 11.9, 10*

The Lord sits enthroned as king for ever. May the Lord bless his people with peace!

*Psalms 29.10, 11*

Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever.  
Your royal sceptre is a sceptre of peace.

*Psalms 45.6*

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our Lord and the authority of his Christ.

*Revelation 12.10*

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations.

*Matthew 28.18,19*



# Seasons and Festivals of the Agricultural Year

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## Introduction

The Jewish and Christian Scriptures give eloquent expression to the creative power and wisdom of God. It is therefore a natural instinct for worshipping communities to develop patterns of worship and prayer around the agricultural year. Of course, there were dangers, and the same Scriptures bear witness to concerns about the idolatry of fertility cults and the worship of created things rather than the Creator. Nevertheless, ancient society lived close to the land, and it is no surprise that the ancient Jewish festivals of Passover and Unleavened Bread, Weeks and Tabernacles all have agrarian roots. The Christian tradition, too, has assimilated, but with differing emphases and in different times and places, particular agricultural festivals. Much of this is bound up with the need to provide food to sustain human life, and the accompanying sense of a proper humility before God as Source of all things, gratitude for his goodness, and responsibility in stewarding the resources of the earth.

The material in this section is organized under various headings. However, much of it can be adapted for any occasion in which a local church wishes to explore creation themes, or issues such as the environment, Christian stewardship, or 'One World' concerns.

## Creation

A bank of resources is provided for use at the Holy Communion or with A Service of the Word on particular occasions. The resources provided may appropriately be used on the Second Sunday before Lent, when the *Common Worship* Lectionary readings explore biblical traditions concerning creation. Further material can be found in *New Patterns for Worship*.

## Plough Sunday

The observance of Plough Sunday on the first Sunday of the Epiphany goes back to Victorian times, but behind it there is a much older observance, associated with the first working day after the twelve days of Christmas, hence 'Plough Monday' in some places. In medieval times some ploughs were kept in the parish church, and some churches kept a 'plough-light'. In days when work was scarce in winter, the observance looked forward to the time of sowing with the promise of a harvest to come. Some Christian communities have re-introduced it as a focus for asking a blessing on human labour near the start of the calendar year.

Forms are provided here for the blessing of a plough and the blessing of seed. Lectionary material is also provided.

## Rogationtide

The Rogation Days (from the Latin 'rogare', to ask) are the three weekdays before Ascension Day. However, in practice, many churches have observed Rogation on the preceding Sunday (Easter V in the Prayer Book, the Sixth Sunday of Easter in *Common Worship*). The Prayer Book Gospel includes the words of Jesus 'Whatsoever ye shall ask for in my Name, he will give it you,' words associated with the heavenly intercession of the ascended Christ.

Originally, the Christian observance of rogation was taken over from Graeco-Roman religion, where an annual procession invoked divine favour to protect crops against mildew. The tradition grew of using processional litanies, often around the parish boundaries, for the blessing of the land. These processions concluded with a mass. The Rogation procession was suppressed at the Reformation, but it was restored in 1559. The poet George Herbert interpreted

the procession as a means of asking for God's blessing on the land, of preserving boundaries, of encouraging fellowship between neighbours with the reconciling of differences, and as a means of charitable giving to the poor. The tradition of 'beating the bounds' has been preserved in some communities, while others maintain the traditional use of the Litany within worship. In more recent times, the scope of Rogation has been widened to include petition for the world of work and for accountable stewardship, and prayer for local communities, whether rural or urban.

The provision here includes resource material for Rogationtide worship, litanies for the Rogationtide procession, and patterns of readings. The material is to be used with flexibility according to local circumstances.

### **Lammas tide**

Lammas or 'Loaf-mass' (derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'Hlafmaesse') is an English feast in origin, held on 1 August as a thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the wheat harvest. Traditionally, a newly-baked loaf from the wheat harvest was presented before God within the mass of that day. While the ceremony ceased at the Reformation, reference to Lammas Day continued in the Prayer Book calendar, and the practice has been revived in some places in more recent years. The tradition of giving thanks for the first-fruits need not be limited to 1 August, and churches are at liberty to decide when to hold such a celebration. Here, material is provided to form the Gathering rite of the eucharist. The Lammas loaf should ideally be baked by members of the congregation, using local produce wherever possible. Other small loaves or buns, in the tradition of 'blessed bread', may be distributed to the congregation. Part of the Lammas loaf may be used as the eucharistic bread on this occasion. Two patterns of readings are suggested, the first concerning the offering of the first-fruits and the second concerning the Bread of Life.

### **Harvest Thanksgiving**

Harvest Thanksgiving is a more modern addition to the church calendar. Its origins are usually traced to the adaptation in 1843 of Lammas Day by the Revd R. S. Hawker, a parish priest in Cornwall. He chose the first Sunday in October as a Christian response to coincide with the traditional but largely secular 'harvest home' celebration, but there is some evidence to suggest that a thanksgiving for the harvest was already a relatively widespread practice. An annual church celebration of the Harvest certainly established itself rapidly with great popularity and was first recognised officially in the Church of England in 1862. Since then, many local traditions for the celebration have developed and many liturgical resources are available. Here, a bank of resource material is provided for use at the Holy Communion or a service of the Word. An Act of Thanksgiving is provided which may accompany the tradition of bringing to church gifts of fresh produce and other foodstuffs.

### **Prayer in Times of Agricultural Crisis**

Two forms of prayer are provided. The first is a prayer which can be used as a basis for corporate response to a time of crisis. The second is for seasonable weather, and may be used in times when heavy rain or flooding or indeed lack of rain prejudice the crops, or when severe or extreme weather endangers the harvest and the welfare of animals.

## Creation

### Introduction to Confession

God's whole creation groans.  
The land produces thorns and thistles and longs to be set free.  
Our sin affects all around us.  
We confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*[Enriching p154\*]*

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,  
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.  
We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

*cf Romans 8.22,23 [New Patterns B6]*

### Kyrie Confessions

Your righteousness, Lord, is like the strong mountains,  
and your judgements are like the great deep.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

With you is the well of life,  
and in your light shall we see light.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Save us, Lord.  
Continue your steadfast love to those who love you,  
and your salvation to the upright of heart.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p154\*]*

Consider the birds of the air;  
they do not sow or gather into barns,  
yet our heavenly Father feeds them.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;  
they do not toil nor spin,  
yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

How little faith we have.  
Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Matt. 6.26, 28-30, 33*

*or*

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;  
yet we have misused the earth,  
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You have brought order out of chaos,  
light in darkness, good out of evil,  
but we have preferred darkness  
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You have showered us with blessings,  
but we have been grudging towards others,  
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Kenneth Carveley\*]*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
God has spoken to us through his Son,  
through whom he created the worlds.  
**Alleluia.**

*cf Heb 1.2*

### **Intercession**

Let us pray to God the Almighty, the King of creation.

God said, 'Let there be light'.  
Eternal God, we thank you for your light and your truth.  
We praise you for your fatherly care  
in creating a universe which proclaims your glory.  
Inspire us to worship you, the creator of all,  
and let your light shine upon our world.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let there be a firmament in the midst of the heavens'.  
We thank you for the vastness of the universe  
and the mysteries of space.  
We pray for all scientists and astronomers  
who extend the boundaries of our knowledge.  
As we contemplate the wonder of the heavens,  
confirm us in the truth  
that every human being is known and loved by you.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let the waters be gathered together,  
and let dry land appear'.  
We thank you for the beauty of the earth,  
for the diversity of land and sea,  
for the resources of the earth.  
Give us the will to cherish this planet  
and to use its riches for the good and welfare of all.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let there be lights in the sky  
to separate the day and the night'.  
We thank you for the warmth of the sun,  
the light of the moon, the glory of the stars.  
We praise you for the formations of clouds,  
the radiance of dawn and sunset.  
Save us from wasting or abusing the energy  
on which all life depends.  
Open our eyes to behold your beauty,  
and our lips to praise your name.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let the waters bring forth living creatures,  
and let birds fly across the sky'.  
We thank you for the teeming life of the seas,  
and the flight of the birds.  
Help us to protect the environment  
so that all life may flourish.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind'.  
We rejoice in the variety of animal life.  
Grant us grace to treat all animals with respect and care;  
to protect endangered species,  
to preserve the variety of habitats,  
and to honour the delicate balance of nature.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

God said, 'Let us create human beings in our own image'.  
We pray for the human family.  
We exult in its diversity and giftedness,  
we repent of its sins, divisions, and violence.  
By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us,  
through Christ who came to re-make us  
by his death and resurrection.  
God of life:  
**hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty:  
open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works;  
that, rejoicing in your whole creation,  
we may learn to serve you with gladness;  
for the sake of him through whom all things were made,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*[ECUSA, BCP p814]*

### **Introduction to the Peace**

You shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

*Isaiah 55.12*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now reunited on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
into your kingdom from the corners of the earth.

**Amen.**

*[CW p292]*

Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[CW p293]*

### **Preface**

And now we give you thanks  
because in him, our risen Lord,  
the new creation is being brought to perfection,  
a broken world is being renewed,  
and creation itself will share  
in the glorious liberty of the children of God.

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because all things are of your making,  
all times and seasons obey your laws,  
but you have chosen to create us in your own image,  
setting us over the whole world in all its wonder.  
You have made us stewards of your creation  
to praise you day by day  
for the marvels of your wisdom and power:



so earth unites with heaven  
to sing the new song of creation:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord ...**

*[New Patterns G89]*

## **Extended Preface**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
For you have created the heavens and the earth,  
and formed us in your own image.  
In the fulness of time you sent forth your Son, your eternal Word,  
who laid down his life for our salvation  
and rose from the grave, the first fruits of your new creation.  
You send forth your holy and life-giving Spirit  
to give life to our mortal bodies  
and to renew the face of the earth.  
Therefore with all the heavenly hosts,  
we give voice to everything that you have made,  
and sing the eternal hymn of praise.

## **Blessing and Endings**

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the source of all goodness and growth,  
pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon you his children,  
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J69]*

*or*

May God the Father,  
who clothes the lilies of the field  
and feeds the birds of the air,  
provide us with all we need for life in its fulness.  
**Amen.**

May God the Son,  
who fed the five thousand and turned water into wine,  
feed us with his life and transform us in his love.  
**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,  
who hovered over the waters of creation  
and formed the world from chaos,  
form us in the likeness of Christ and renew the face of the earth.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*or*

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Acclamations

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the Universe.

**Your word brings on the dusk of evening.**

Your wisdom creates both night and day.

**You determine the cycles of time.**

You arrange the succession of seasons

and establish the stars in their heavenly courses.

**The Lord of hosts is your name.**

Living and eternal God, rule over us always.

**Blessed be the Lord, whose word makes evening fall.**

*[Enriching p156\*]*

*or*

Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth  
and established its boundaries?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

Where were you when the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

Who shut up the sea behind doors  
when it burst forth from the womb,  
when I made the clouds its garment?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

Have you commanded the morning,  
and caused the dawn to know its place?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

From whose womb does the ice come forth  
and who gives birth to the hoar-frost of heaven?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

Who has endowed the heart with wisdom,  
and given understanding to the mind?

**Lord, you can do all things; your purpose stands for ever.**

*cf Job 38, 42.2*

## Short Passages of Scripture

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

*Genesis 1.31*

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

*Psalm 104.26*

In Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible - all things have been created through him and for him.

*Colossians 1.16*

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they have their being.

*Revelation 4.11*

## **Plough Sunday**

Forms of prayer are provided for the blessing of a plough and the blessing of seed, along with lectionary provision. The material can be incorporated into the Holy Communion or a service of the Word. Other resource material from Seasons and Festivals of the Agricultural Year may be used or adapted appropriately.

### **The Blessing of the Plough**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
for in your abundant care you have given us fertile land,  
rich soil, the seasons in their courses.  
You provide seed for sowing, water, light and warmth  
to bring forth the miracle of growth.  
You give us skill to work the land,  
to prepare and nourish it, that it may be fruitful.  
By your blessing,  
let this plough be a sign of all that you promise to us.  
Prosper the work of our hands,  
and provide abundant crops for your people to share.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

God speed the plough!  
**God speed the plough!**

### **The Blessing of Seed**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
in your goodness you have given us this seed to sow.  
In it we perceive the promise of life,  
the wonders of your creative love.  
By your blessing,  
let this seed be for us a sign of your creative power,  
that in sowing and watering,  
tending and watching,  
we may see the miracle of growth,

and in due course reap a rich harvest.  
As this seed must die to give life,  
reveal to us the saving power of your Son,  
who died that we might live,  
and plant in us the good seed of your word.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

By itself the earth produces:  
**first the stalk, then the ear, then the full grain shall appear.**

## Readings

Genesis 1.9-13 *or* Genesis 8.20-9.3 *or* Isaiah 55.6-11 *or* Ecclesiasticus 38.25-34  
Psalm 37.22-38  
1 Corinthians 9.6-14  
Matthew 7.25-34

## Short Passages of Scripture

There is a time to sow, and a time to reap.

*Ecclesiastes 3.2*

Sow for yourselves righteousness;  
reap steadfast love;  
break up your fallow ground;  
for it is time to seek the Lord,  
that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.

*Hosea 10.12*

A sower went forth to sow, and some seed fell into good soil.

*cf Mark 4.3,8*

Sow bountifully and you will also reap bountifully.

*2 Corinthians 9.6*

## Blessing

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the source of all goodness and growth,  
pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon you his children,  
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples.  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J69]*

## Dismissal

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Rogationtide

Let us ask God to have mercy on our tired land,  
and to prosper the work of our soiled hands.  
Let us ask God to forgive our delusion of self-sufficiency  
so that we may praise him for his provision and goodness.

## Invitation to Confession

### Kyrie Confession

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
yet we take your generous gifts for granted.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
but we squander its rich resources.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this good earth,  
but we fail to share your bounty with all of your children.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### Gospel Acclamations

Alleluia. Alleluia.  
Ask and you will receive, says the Lord,  
so that your joy may be complete.  
**Alleluia.**

*John 16.24*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
The seed is the word of God, says the Lord.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 8.11*

### Intercession

Let us ask the God of creation to send a blessing upon us.

Upon the rich earth send a blessing, O Lord.  
Let the earth be fruitful  
and its resources be hallowed.  
We ask in faith:  
**we ask you to hear us, good Lord.**

Upon human labour send a blessing, O Lord.  
Prosper the work of our hands;  
may all find dignity and just reward in their work;

free the exploited and oppressed.  
We ask in faith:  
**we ask you to hear us, good Lord.**

Upon the produce of the earth send a blessing, O Lord.  
Guide into a sustainable future,  
and give us the will to share the fruits of the world.  
We ask in faith:  
**we ask you to hear us, good Lord.**

Upon the seas and waters send a blessing, O Lord.  
Teach us to cherish the water of the earth,  
and to conserve the seas, lakes and rivers.  
We ask in faith:  
**we ask you to hear us, good Lord.**

Upon aid agencies send a blessing, O Lord.  
Where the earth is parched and the well has run dry;  
where war brings want, and children go hungry;  
where the poor cry out for bread and for justice,  
give hands to care and heal, and compel us to be generous.  
We ask in faith:  
**we ask you to hear us, good Lord.**

We ask you to hear us, good Lord,  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*or*

Let us pray to God our creator,  
whose has given us the earth's goodness for our delight,  
and entrusted it to our care and tenderness.

For all who live in captivity to debt,  
whose lives are cramped by fear  
from which there is no turning  
except through abundant harvest;  
Lord, we pray.  
May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who depend on the earth for their daily food and fuel,  
whose forests are destroyed for the profit of a few;  
Lord, we pray.  
May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For those who labour in poverty,  
are oppressed by unjust laws,  
are prevented from speaking the truth,

and long for a harvest of justice;  
Lord, we pray.  
May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

For all who are captive to greed and waste and boredom,  
whose harvest joy is choked  
with things they do not need;  
Lord, we pray.  
May those who sow in tears  
**reap with shouts of joy.**

Save us from all that holds us captive,  
restore our vision,  
that our mouth may be filled with laughter  
and our tongue with songs of joy.  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns F48\*]*

### **Introduction to the Peace**

By prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known to God.  
And the peace of God,  
which passes all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4.6-7*

### **Prayers at the Preparation of the Table**

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

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[CW p291]*

*or*  
Blessed be God,  
by whose grace creation is renewed,  
by whose love heaven is opened,  
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*[CW p293]*

## Preface

And now we give you thanks  
for your ancient promise  
that while the earth endures,  
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,  
summer and winter, day and night,  
will never cease.

## Extended Preface

It is indeed right and good  
to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.  
Through him you have created us in your own image,  
and made us stewards of your good creation.  
Through him you teach us to exult in the birds of the air,  
the lilies of the field, the precious and life-giving crops of the earth.  
Through him you free us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to die upon the cross,  
and to rise again for our salvation.  
Through him, you begin your work of new creation,  
as we look for a new heaven and a new earth  
in which your righteousness dwells.  
Therefore, we join with angels and archangels,  
and give voice to every creature under heaven,  
for ever praising you and saying.

## Blessing and Ending

*The blessing and ending on page 00 may be used.*

## Acclamations

**God be gracious to us and bless us:  
and make his face to shine upon us.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God:  
**God be gracious to us and bless us.**

Judge the peoples righteously and govern the nations upon earth.  
**God be gracious to us and bless us.**

Let the earth bring forth her increase:  
**God be gracious to us and bless us.**

**God be gracious to us and bless us:  
and make his face to shine upon us.**

*cf Psalm 67*



## The Rogationtide Procession

This may be a procession within the church building or in the open air, whether the traditional beating of the bounds or a specified procession in part of the parish. Prayers and readings may be used at suitable places. The following resources may be used according to circumstances.

**A** The Litany in the Book of Common Prayer or the Common Worship Litany may be said or sung.

*In the Prayer Book Litany the following petitions may be inserted after the petition, 'That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them. **We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**'*

That it may please thee to grant favourable weather,  
temperate rain, and fruitful seasons,  
that there may be food and drink for all thy creatures,  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to bless the lands and waters,  
and all who work upon them  
to bring forth food and all things needful for thy people,  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

That it may please thee to look with favour  
upon all who care for the earth, the water, and the air,  
that the riches of thy creation may abound from age to age,  
**We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.**

*[ECUSA Book of Occasional Services (2nd Edition) p102]*

*In the Common Worship Litany, the following may be inserted in Section V, following the petition 'Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory, and for the good of all creation. **Hear us, good Lord.**'*

Grant favourable weather, temperate rains, and fruitful seasons,  
that there may be food and drink for all creatures.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

Bestow your blessing upon the lands and waters,  
and all who work upon them  
to bring forth food and all things needful for your people.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

Prosper all who care for the earth, the water, and the air,  
that the riches of your creation may abound from age to age.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

*[ECUSA Book of Occasional Services (2nd Edition) p103\*]*

**B**                    *All or parts of the following Litany may be said or sung*

**I**

Let us pray.

God the Father, Lord of creation,  
**have mercy upon us.**

God the Son, through whom all things were made,  
**have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the face of the earth,  
**have mercy upon us.**

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, creating and saving God,  
**have mercy upon us.**

Remember, Lord, your mercy and loving-kindness towards us.  
Bless this good earth, and make it fruitful.  
Bless our labour, and give us all things needful for our daily lives.  
Bless the homes of this parish and all who live within them.  
Bless our common life, and our care for our neighbour.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

**II**

For all cities, towns and villages,  
and for their well being and prosperity,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the rural economy and for its regeneration,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who tend the countryside  
and preserve its order and beauty,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For traditional rural skills and crafts  
and for those who exercise them,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For all farms, all who work them,  
and for the whole farming industry,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make farming policy,  
and for all with authority in government,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### III

For a blessing on our land we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For healthy crops and abundant harvests we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the care and welfare of animals  
and for the veterinary profession we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the harvest of the soil,  
and for the fruits of the earth in their seasons we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For seasonable weather, we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For protection from blight, pestilence and disease we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For those engaged in agricultural research we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the service industries which support rural life we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the ministry of your Church in rural areas we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For parts of the world where the harvests have failed we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For charities, aid-agencies, and overseas development we pray.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

#### IV

For our daily bread:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For all who work on the land to bring us our food in due season:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For all who fish the rivers, lakes and seas:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For all who process foods and prepare them for distribution and sale:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For all supermarkets and shops, and for all who work in them:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For those who work in food research:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For those who distribute food to those in need:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

For the will to share your bounteous gifts:  
**we pray to you, O Lord.**

#### V

For the world of work in all its diversity.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the industry and workplaces of this *parish/community*.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the right ordering of work in time of technological change.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For communities which have lost traditional industries,  
and for their regeneration.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For all expanding industries and for the promise of new jobs.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For small businesses and co-operatives.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For local trade and commerce.  
**Hear us, good Lord.**

For all service industries which provide for our daily needs.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the unemployed and for those living in poverty.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

For all school leavers seeking to enter employment.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

For the retired and those unable to work.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

For all who work as volunteers.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

## VI

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray  
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

[CW p415]

**C** *The following readings may be used at suitable points in the procession. A selection may be made from either Table A or Table B according to circumstances. Suitable hymns or songs may be used in place of the psalmody.*

### A

- 1 Deuteronomy 26. 1-11
- 2 Job 38. 1-11, 16-18
- 3 Ezekiel 47. 6-12
- 4 Ecclesiasticus 38. 27-32
- 5 Acts 14. 8-18
- 6 2 Corinthians 9.9-11a
- 7 Philippians 4. 4-7
- 8 Mark 11. 22-24  
or Matthew 6.7-15

- Psalm 147.1-13  
Psalm 104. 25-37  
Psalm 107.23-32  
Psalm 107. 1-9  
Psalm 107.33-end  
Psalm 112  
Benedicite

### B

- Genesis 8.12-23  
Leviticus 26. 1-13  
Deuteronomy 8. 1-10  
Hosea 2. 18-23  
James 4. 7-11  
Romans 8. 18-25  
1 Corinthians 3.10-14  
John 6. 22-40  
or John 12. 23-26

## Short Sentences of Scripture

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, our own God, will bless us.

*Psalm 67.5,6*

May the goodness of the Lord be upon us;  
may he prosper the work of our hands.

*Psalm 90.7 [ASB p884]*

God will give us his good gifts, and our land will yield its fruit.

*Psalm 85.12 [ASB p890]*

Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love;  
break up your fallow ground;  
for it is time to seek the Lord,  
that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.

*Hosea 10:12*

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let  
your requests be made known to God.

*Philippians 4.6*

## Lammastide

As the word Lammas suggests, the setting for this material is the Holy Communion. The Lammas loaf, or part of it, may be used as the bread of the eucharist, or the Lammas loaf and the eucharistic bread may be kept separate. To avoid any possible confusion, the rite of the presentation of the Lammas loaf should form part of the Gathering in Holy Communion Order One. Suitable patterns of readings are suggested.

### *The Gathering*

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung.*

*The president may say*  
In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*[CW p167]*

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*  
The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*[CW p167]*

## The Presentation of the Lammas Loaf

*The president introduces the service with these or other suitable words*

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the people of God in ancient times presented to the Lord an offering of first fruits as a sign of their dependence upon God for their daily bread. At this Lammastide, we bring a newly-baked loaf as our offering in thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness.

Jesus said, I am the bread of life; those who come to me shall never be hungry and those who believe in me shall never thirst.

*John 6.35*

*The Lammas loaf is brought to the president*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
you bring forth bread from the fields.  
and give us the fruits of the earth in their seasons.  
Accept this loaf, which we bring before you,  
made from the harvest of your goodness.  
Let it be for us a sign of your fatherly care.  
Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
worthy of our thanksgiving and praise.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Prayers of Penitence

As those who know the generosity of God,  
let us confess our sins,  
especially the ways in which we take his good gifts for granted.

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our trespasses.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.  
Let us not be led into temptation.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.  
Deliver us from evil.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*The president says*

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.**

[CW p170]

*The Gloria in Excelsis may be used.*

*The service continues with the Collect of the Day.*

## Readings

### a. The Offering of First-fruits

Leviticus 23: 9-14

Psalm 126

1 Corinthians 15: 12-20 or James 5: 7-9

Matthew 15: 32-39 or John 4: 31-38

### b. The Bread of Life

Exodus 16: 11-15

Psalm 104: 10-15

2 Corinthians 9: 6-11

John 6: 28-35

## Prayers at the Preparation of the Table

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

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

[CW p291]

## Post Communion

O God,  
your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in his redeeming work,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**



## Blessing

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the source of all goodness and growth,  
pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon you his children,  
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples.  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J69]*

## Dismissal

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Harvest Thanksgiving

## Introduction to Confession

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor,  
and repent of the ways in which we waste  
the resources of the world.

## Kyrie Confession

Lord, you give justice to those who are suffering,  
and bread to those who hunger.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, you loose those who are bound  
and open the eyes of the blind.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, you watch over the stranger in the land;  
and uphold the orphan and the widow.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*cf Psalm 146.6-7, 9*

*or*

God has blessed us:  
but still God's children go hungry.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

God has blessed us:  
but still the poor cry out for justice.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

God has blessed us,  
but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*or*  
We confess to you  
our lack of care for the world you have given us.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you  
our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you  
our failure to protect resources for others.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[New Patterns B56]*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.  
Gather the fruit for eternal life.  
**Alleluia.**

## **Thanksgiving**

Let us give thanks to God,  
the God of all peoples of the earth.  
For the colour and forms of your creation  
and our place within it,  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For our daily food,  
and for those whose work and skill  
bring your good gifts to us,  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For the gifts and graces inspired in human minds and hearts;  
for insight and imagination,

for the skills of research  
which bring healing and fulfilment to the lives of many;  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For the light and shades of the changing seasons,  
and their variety and dependability;  
for new life and growth out of barrenness and decay;  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For new hope and strength in our communities,  
especially in your Church and among all you call to serve you,  
we bring our thanks, good Lord;  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For all in whose lives we see  
goodness, kindness, gentleness, patience and humility,  
and all the fruit of the Spirit,  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

For the life we have been given,  
and for all those whom God has given us to share it,  
we bring our thanks, good Lord:  
**your mercy endures for ever.**

*[Kenneth Carveley\*]*

### **Intercession**

Let us pray to God, the Lord of the harvest,  
that he will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation.

Lord of creation,  
we see that the fields are ripe for harvesting:  
we pray for your Church,  
that it may be ready to gather fruit for eternal life.  
Lord of the harvest,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

You have created the universe by your eternal Word,  
and have blessed humankind in giving us dominion over the earth:  
we pray for the world,  
that we may honour and share its resources,  
and live in reverence for the creation  
and in harmony with one another.  
Lord of the harvest,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

Your Son has promised that the Spirit will lead us into all truth:  
we pray for the community in which you have set us,

for one another and for ourselves,  
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace.  
Lord of the harvest,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

You have given your people a rich land,  
yet by sin we have made a world of suffering and sorrow:  
we pray for those who bear the weight of affliction,  
that they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty.  
Lord of the harvest,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

Your Son Jesus Christ is the first-fruits of the resurrection  
and will reap the harvest of the dead at the end of time:  
we pray for all those who have gone before us in his peace,  
that he will bring safely home all whom you have given him  
and gather us all to share together  
in the banquet of the age to come.  
Lord of the harvest,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

Source of all life  
and giver of all that is good,  
hear our prayers and grant us all that is in accordance with your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[Enriching p155-6\*]*

*or*

Let us offer our prayers to God for the life of the world  
and for all God's people in their daily life and work.

God, the beginning and end of all things,  
in your providence and care  
you watch unceasingly over all creation;  
we offer our prayers  
that in us and in all your people your will may be done,  
according to your wise and loving purpose in Christ our Lord.  
Lord of all life:  
**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all through whom we receive sustenance and life;  
for farmers and agricultural workers,  
for packers, distributors and company boards;  
as you have so ordered our life that we depend upon each other,  
enable us by your grace to seek the well-being of others before our own.  
Lord of all creation:  
**hear our prayer**

We pray for all engaged in research to safeguard crops against disease,  
and to produce abundant life among those who hunger  
and whose lives are at risk.

Prosper the work of their hands  
and the searching of their minds,  
that their labour may be for the welfare of all.

Lord of all wisdom:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for governments and aid agencies,  
and those areas of the world where there is disaster, drought and starvation.

By the grace of your Spirit,  
touch our hearts  
and the hearts of all who live in comfortable plenty,  
and make us wise stewards of your gifts.

Lord of all justice:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are ill,  
remembering those in hospital and nursing homes  
and all who are known to us.

We pray for all who care for them.  
Give skill and understanding  
to all who work for their well-being.

Lord of all compassion:

**hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have died,  
whom we entrust to your eternal love  
in the hope of resurrection to new life.

Lord of all peace:

**hear our prayer.**

We offer ourselves to your service,  
asking that by the Spirit at work in us  
others may receive a rich harvest of love and joy and peace.

Lord of all faithfulness:

**hear our prayer.**

God of grace,  
as you are ever at work in your creation,  
so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us  
and in all for whom we pray,  
that with them and in all that you have made,  
your glory may be revealed  
and the whole earth give praise to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*[Kenneth Carveley\*]*

## Introduction to the Peace

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

*cf Galatians 5.22, 23*

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
you bring forth bread from the earth.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
you create the fruit of the vine.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## Preface

And now we give you thanks because  
you make us stewards of your creation,  
to praise you day by day  
for the marvels of your wisdom and power.

*[Enriching p157\*]*

## Extended Preface

*The Extended Prefaces for Creation and Rogation may be used (see pages 00 and 00).*

## Blessings and Endings

May God our creator,  
who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the air,  
bestow on you his care  
and increase the harvest of your righteousness;  
and the blessing ...

*[Church in Wales]*

*or*

God the Father, who created the world,  
give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation.  
**Amen.**

God the Son, who redeemed the world,  
inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation,  
help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[Church in Wales]*

*or*

Freely you have received, freely give.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*or*

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,  
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.  
Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Acclamations**

**The earth has yielded its harvest;  
God, our God, has blessed us.**

You visit the earth and water it;  
**you make it very plenteous.**  
You soften the ground with showers;  
**and bless the increase of it.**  
You crown the year with your goodness;  
**and your paths overflow with plenty.**  
The meadows are clothed with sheep;  
**the valleys stand so thick with corn,**  
**they shout for joy and sing.**

**The earth has yielded its harvest.  
God, our God, has blessed us.**

*cf Psalm 65.8,10,11,13; Psalm 67.7*

### **Short passages of Scripture**

The land has yielded its harvest: God, our God has blessed us.

*Psalm 67.6 [ASB p890]*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.

*Psalm 107.1*

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall not cease.

*Genesis 8.22*

The earth is filled with the gifts of the Lord: wine and oil and bread, to strengthen us and cheer our hearts.

*Psalm 104.13,14 [ASB p901]*

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

*2 Corinthians 9.10*

The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send labours into his harvest.

*Matthew 9.38*

## **Prayer in times of Agricultural crisis**

### **A prayer in times of crisis**

God of compassion,  
we rejoice in the unity which is at the heart of your creation;  
look upon our land and heal it,  
and from ...,  
good Lord, deliver us.  
As we stand before you in prayer for all who are suffering,  
grant that your light may shine in their darkness,  
and that we may bear one another's burdens,  
and so fulfil your law of love.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **For favourable weather in time of need**

O God, heavenly Father,  
who by your Son Jesus Christ  
have promised to all those who seek your kingdom and its righteousness  
all things necessary to sustain their life:  
send us, we entreat you, in this time of need,  
\* *such moderate rain and showers*  
\* *such favourable weather*  
that we may receive the fruits of the earth,  
to our comfort, and to your honour;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[ECUSA, BCP p282]*



## ***COMMON WORSHIP: FESTIVALS***

### **Contents**

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The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus (1 January)

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Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr (26 December)

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#### ***Common of the Saints***

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Apostles and Evangelists

Martyrs

Teachers of the Faith

Bishops and Other Pastors

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Any Saint; Holy Men and Women

The following material will also be included in the published volume

¶ General Notes

¶ Calendar

¶ Calendar Notes

¶ The Common Worship Collects and Post Communions [CW:Presidents p123-212]

¶ Common Worship Holy Communion [CW:President's p383-431, 625-30]

## Key to principal sources

<i>CW</i>	<i>Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England</i> (2000)
<i>CW:President's</i>	<i>Common Worship: President's Edition</i> (2000)
<i>CW:Pastoral</i>	<i>Common Worship: Pastoral Services</i> (2000)
<i>CW:Daily Prayer</i>	<i>Common Worship: Daily Prayer – Preliminary Edition</i> (2002)

**New Patterns    New Patterns for Worship (2002)**

**Promise      The Promise of His Glory: Services and Prayers for the Season  
from All Saints to Candlemas (1991)**

## LHWE Lent, Holy Week, Easter: Services and Prayers (1986)

**Enriching** *M. Perham, Enriching the Christian Year (1993)*

**APBFA      A Prayer Book for Australia (1995)**

**BAS(Canada)      The Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of  
Canada (1985)**

## NZPB A New Zealand Prayer Book (1989)

<i>ICEL</i>	The International Consultation on English in the Liturgy, <i>Draft Roman Sacramentary</i> (1995)
<i>A. Griffiths</i>	A. Griffiths, <i>We Give You Thanks and Praise: The Eucharistic Prefaces of the Ambrosian Missal</i> (1999)

\* indicates that a text has been modified

# The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus (1 January)

## *Invitation to confession*

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.

*Matthew 1.21*

## *Kyrie Confession*

Jesus, name above all names,  
forgive us our lack of reverence and awe in your presence.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, name of our salvation,  
forgive us our attempts to live in our own strength.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Jesus, name of life and healing,  
forgive us our sins and offences.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## *Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as children.  
**Alleluia.**

*Galatians 4.4–5*

## *Intercession*

In and through the name of Jesus let us pray to the Father.

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
In a believer's ear!  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,  
And drives away his fears.

We give thanks for the name of Jesus ...  
We pray for the worship and mission of Christ's Church ...  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest.

We pray for the world and for its healing ...  
We pray for all who carry heavy loads ...  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Weak is the effort of my heart,  
And cold my warmest thought;  
But when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.

We pray at the beginning of this New Year  
for renewed discipleship consecration to the way of the Lord ...  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Till then I would thy love proclaim  
With every fleeting breath;  
And may the music of thy name  
Refresh my soul in death.

We remember with thanksgiving all  
who have loved the name of Jesus ...  
We pray that, surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses  
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

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

### *Introduction to the Peace*

Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours.

### *Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Jesus, true joy of loving hearts,  
we turn unfilled to you again.  
Come and be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

## *Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because you have highly exalted him,  
and given him the name above all other names,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.

*[New Patterns G117]*

## *Extended Preface*

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
We praise you that on the eighth day  
he was circumcised in obedience to the law of Moses,  
that he might fulfil the law and reveal to us your grace and truth.  
For here is fore-shadowed  
his perfect self-offering upon the Cross,  
the shedding of his blood to set us free from sin and death.  
In baptism we die with him and are raised in him,  
that we might walk in newness of life,  
and proclaim the wonders of his saving name.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

## *Blessing*

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the blessing ...

## *Acclamation*

You will name him Jesus;  
**he will save his people from their sins.**

He will be great;  
**he will be called the Son of the Most High.**

He will be called Emmanuel:  
**God is with us.**

## *Short Passages of Scripture*

Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

*Colossians 3.17*

The Law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

*John 1.17*

## **The Conversion of Paul (25 January)**

*Invitation to Confession*

We were once dead through the trespasses and sins in which we lived,  
but now we are alive together with Christ.  
Through him we have access in one Spirit to the Father  
to whom we humbly confess our sins.

*cf Ephesians 2.1, 5, 18*

*Kyrie Confessions*

Open our eyes to your presence in our midst.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Turn our hearts from selfish ends.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Draw us into your company on the way.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*or*

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p126 12B2]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.  
Alleluia.

*Intercession*

Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints,  
let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father, your Son called men and women to leave the past behind them and to follow him as his disciples in the way of the cross. Look with mercy upon those whom he calls today, marks with the cross and makes his disciples within the Church ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son told his disciples not to be afraid, and at Easter breathed on them his gift of peace. Look with mercy upon the world into which he sent them out, and give it that peace for which it longs ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son formed around him a company who were no longer servants but friends, and he called all those who obeyed him his brother and sister and mother. Look with mercy upon our families and our friends and upon the communities in which we share ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son sent out disciples to preach and to heal the sick. Look with mercy on all those who yearn to hear the good news of salvation, and renew among your people the gifts of healing ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son promised to those who followed him that they would sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel and would share the banquet of the kingdom. According to your promise, look with mercy on those who have walked with Christ in this life and now have passed through death ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Almighty God,  
you have built your Church upon the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets,  
with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone:  
so join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine,  
that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p.126/7 12C1]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

Let the peace of God which surpasses all understanding,  
guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Almighty Father,  
as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption  
may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith;  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[BAS (Canada)\*]

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because your Son Jesus Christ can call to his service  
even those who persecute your Church,  
and send them forth to the nations to preach the gospel,  
teaching them the way of truth.

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For on this day he called to his service  
the blasphemer and persecutor of your Church.  
Saul who had resisted your grace  
became Paul the apostle to the gentiles.  
Faithful and true in his ministry,  
you made him an example of patient service,  
to instruct in the way of eternal life  
all those who heard his preaching and believed your word.  
Now, therefore, he who became your chosen instrument  
for the salvation of the nations  
has made us also eager to proclaim your mercy,  
and sing in union with all the powers of heaven  
the joyful hymn of your praise.

[A. Griffiths\*]

*Blessing*

May Christ who called Paul to his service,  
and to preach the good news to the world,  
strengthen you witness to his grace and love.  
And the blessing ...



*Short Passages of Scripture*

I am unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the Church of God, but by the grace of God I am what I am.  
**1 Cor 15.9-10**

The Lord said, 'Paul is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel.'

**Acts 9.15**

Paul took bread; and giving thanks to God in the presence of all, he broke it and began to eat. Then all were encouraged.

**Acts 27.35\***

*Joseph of Nazareth (19 March)*

*Invitation to Confession*

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.

*cf Matthew 1.21*

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all,  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house;  
they will always be praising you.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Let us pray for the Church and God's world  
and, inspired by the example of Saint Joseph,  
for grace to grow in faith and holiness  
and to follow ever more closely in the way of Christ.

Joseph was the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born,  
who is called the Messiah:  
may we value our family life at home and in the wider family of the Church.  
We pray for . . . [*Church universal/local etc*]  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph was not afraid to take Mary as his wife  
when he learned that the child conceived in her was from the Holy Spirit:  
may we have no fear when we hear God's call to his service.  
We pray for . . . [*Vocations to ministry/religious life/public service etc*]  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph was a righteous man and unwilling to expose Mary to public disgrace:  
may we lead lives of integrity and be concerned for the reputation of others.  
We pray for . . . [*Leaders/those in public life etc*]  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph named his son, Jesus, the One who will save his people from their sins:  
may we make known to others the salvation he came to bring.  
We pray for those who have not heard the gospel of Christ.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph protected the child Jesus and his mother from the wrath of Herod:  
may we always seek to shield those who are weak and vulnerable.  
We pray for . . . [*Sick, suffering, helpless etc*]  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joseph took his family and returned to his native land.  
We remember those who have died recently . . . . .  
May we, with them and all the faithful departed,  
be welcomed to the banquet of eternal life.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Almighty God,  
we give you thanks for Joseph  
and for the whole company of your saints in glory,  
with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises;

by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect in your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Introduction to the Peace*

Blessed are the peacemakers:  
they shall be called children of God.  
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

*cf Matt 5.19 [CW p290]*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Lord our God,  
grant that as Saint Joseph faithfully cared for your only Son,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
so we may serve you with pure and loyal hearts;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because in his earthly childhood  
you entrusted him to the care of a human family.  
In Mary and Joseph you give us an example  
of love and devotion to him  
and also a pattern of family life.

*[CW:President's p570]*

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Today we honour Saint Joseph,  
the just man whom you gave as husband  
to the Virgin Mother of your Son,  
the wise and faithful servant whom you placed over your household.  
With a father's love he cared for Jesus, your only Son,  
conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit.  
Through Christ the choirs of angels and all the powers of heaven  
worship in awe before your presence.  
May our voices blend with theirs,  
as they sing with joy the hymn of your glory:

*[ICEL\*]*

*Acclamation*

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:  
**there is no end of his greatness.**  
One generation shall praise your works to another:  
**and shall declare your power.**  
All your works praise you, Lord:  
**and your faithful servants bless you.**  
They make known the glory of your kingdom:  
**and speak of your power.**  
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:  
**let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

*[Enriching p142]*

*Ending*

May the love of the Holy Family surround you.  
May the joy that was Mary's refresh you.  
May the faithfulness that was Joseph's encourage you.  
May the peace of the Christ Child fill your lives. **Amen.**

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Joseph was the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born,  
who is called the Messiah.

*Matthew 1.16*

Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife,  
for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 1.20*

Joseph made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the  
prophets might be fulfilled.

*Matthew 2.23*

Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master will set over his household?

*Luke 12.42 [RSV]*

When Joseph and Mary had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned  
to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

*Luke 2.39*

*The Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary (25 March)*

Principal Feast

*Invitations to Confession*

The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins.

*cf Titus 2.11-14 [CW p310]*

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p115]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*John 1.14*

*[CW p310]*

*or, during Easter*

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory.

*John 1.14*

**Alleluia.**

*[CW p302]*

*Intercession*

On this day the Father made our salvation known to Mary  
by the message of an angel.  
Filled with confidence, let us pray.

You chose the Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son.  
Have mercy on all who wait for your redemption ...  
We pray for ... *[Church universal etc]*  
Through your angel Gabriel you brought a message of peace and joy to Mary.  
Give to the world the joy and peace of salvation ...  
We pray for ... *[Peace of the world etc]*

By the consent of your handmaid and the power of the Holy Spirit,

## Advent

your Word came to dwell among us.  
Open our hearts to receive Christ, as Mary the Virgin received him.  
We pray for ... *[those present etc]*

You look with compassion on the lowly  
and fill the hungry with good things.  
Encourage the downhearted, help all those in need  
and comfort those near to death.  
We pray for ... *[Sick, suffering, helpless etc]*

To you, O God, nothing is impossible,  
and you alone do marvellous things;  
save us, and bring us on the last day  
with NN and all the faithful departed  
into your glorious kingdom.

Grant, O Lord,  
that by the riches of your grace,  
we may grow up into him  
who unites our life to yours,  
even he who is the first-born of all creation,  
your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[Divine Office: Annunciation EP\*]*

### *Introduction to the Peace*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
*(In Easter, add Alleluia.)*

*Luke 1.78,79*

*[CW p310]*

### *Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Almighty God,  
so fill us with your grace,  
that we in all things may accept your holy will  
and with the Virgin Mary, full of grace,  
rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[BAS (Canada) p403]*

### *Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
he took our nature upon him  
and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother,  
that being himself without sin,  
he might make us clean from all sin.

*[CW p310]*

### *Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
We give you thanks and praise  
that the Virgin Mary heard with faith the message of the angel,  
and by the power of your Holy Spirit  
conceived and bore the Word made flesh.  
From the warmth of her womb  
to the stillness of the grave  
he shared our life in human form.  
In him new light has dawned upon the world  
and you have become one with us  
that we might become one with you  
in your glorious kingdom.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

[CW p311]

*Blessing*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
and the blessing ...

[CW p311]

*Acclamation*

***The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,***

full of grace and truth.

**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.**

And we have seen his glory,  
the glory as of a father's only son.  
**full of grace and truth.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth.**

[CW:Daily Prayer p194]

### *Short Passages of Scripture*

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

***Isaiah 7.14***

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

***John 1.14***

And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

***Luke 1.31-32***

### *The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth (31 May)*

#### *Invitations to Confession*

“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.”

Let us confess our sins and failings to God our merciful Father.

#### *Kyrie Confession*

We have done what was wrong in your sight  
and chosen what has displeased you.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

As a mother comforts her child so shall you comfort us.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Let us return to you, for you know our every deed and thought.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

[Roman Missal ?]



*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment  
of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

*Luke 1.45*

**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

Let us proclaim the greatness of the Lord  
and rejoice together in the God who saves us.  
Lord, you do great things for us:

**Holy is your name.**

You have mercy on those who fear you in every generation.  
We pray for your Church ...  
Lord, you do great things for us:

**Holy is your name.**

You show the strength of your arm  
and cast down the mighty from their thrones.  
We pray for the nations of the world and their leaders ...  
Lord, you do great things for us:

**Holy is your name.**

You lift up the lowly and fill the hungry with good things.  
We pray for all those in any kind of need ...  
Lord, you do great things for us:

**Holy is your name.**

You come to the aid of your servants  
and remember your promises with mercy.  
We remember *N. N* ... and all who have died in the faith of Christ.  
Bring us with them to share the joy of heaven  
with Mary and all the saints.  
Lord, you do great things for us:

**Holy is your name.**

Father most holy,  
so guide us in the way of humility and obedience like Mary,  
that our lives may be a constant hymn of praise  
to you from whom all good things come.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Introduction to the Peace*

Steadfast love and faithfulness have met;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

*cf. Psalm 85.10*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of mercy,  
accept our gifts and all we bring before you,  
as you accepted the love of Mary,  
the mother of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord, now and for ever.

*[BAS (Canada) p409]*

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because in choosing the blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son  
you have exalted the humble and meek.  
Your angel hailed her as most highly favoured;  
with all generations we call her blessed  
and with her we rejoice and magnify your holy name.

*[CW:President's p570]*

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
almighty Father, ever-living God,  
to proclaim the wonders you have worked in all your saints,  
and on this feast of Mary, ever blessed,  
to echo her praise of your loving kindness.  
For you have truly done great things  
and holy is your name,  
and your mercy is on those who fear you  
in every generation.  
When you looked with favour on your lowly servant  
you remembered your promise of mercy  
and gave the world through her  
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Through, him the hosts of heaven adore you  
and rejoice in your presence for ever.  
May our voices join with theirs  
in the triumphant hymn of praise:

*[ICEL\*]*

*Blessings*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW p311]*

*or*

May God who sent Mary to visit Elizabeth  
to share with her the joy of the divine plan,  
give you grace to tell out the good news of Christ.  
And the blessing ...

*Acclamation*

Your salvation is near to those who fear you;  
that glory may dwell in our land.  
**Your salvation is near to those who fear you;  
that glory may dwell in our land.**  
Mercy and truth have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.  
**That glory may dwell in our land.**  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Your salvation is near to those who fear you;  
that glory may dwell in our land.**

*[CW:Daily Prayer p162]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Come and listen, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.

*Psalms 66.14*

My heart exults in the Lord, my strength is exalted in my God.

*1 Samuel 2.1*

All generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy  
is his name.

*Luke 1.48, 49*

The Lord has filled the hungry with good things.

*Luke 1.53*

*The Birth of John the Baptist (24 June)*

*Invitation to Confession*

John the Baptist proclaimed,  
“Repent for the kingdom of God has come near.”  
Let us turn to the Lord in penitence and faith  
and humbly confess our sin.

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus, you stand among us, and we do not recognize you.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, we are not worthy to untie the thong of your sandals.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 1.76*

*Intercession*

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

Lord God,  
who promised Zechariah a son  
filled with the spirit and power of Elijah,  
to prepare a people fit for the Lord:  
we pray for reconciliation between all people,  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
when Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting  
the baby leapt in her womb:  
may we bless among women she who believed your promise,  
and proclaim with joy the good news of your Christ.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
at John's birth Zechariah proclaimed  
he would be the prophet of the Most High:  
we pray for all who preach the Good News,  
(especially ...).  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
when your Son came to the Jordan and was baptized by John  
he saw the heavens open and the Spirit descending as a dove:  
may we who are baptized into your Church  
faithfully proclaim in the world the words of your beloved Son.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
John proclaimed your Son as 'the Lamb of God'  
and John's disciples followed Jesus:  
help us to follow him also,  
and by our words and deeds  
to bring our families and friends closer to you.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
who sent John to witness to the light,  
to be the voice of one crying in the wilderness  
and to prepare the way of the Lord:  
comfort your people  
and bring your healing to the sick and needy,  
to the broken-hearted and the oppressed,  
to prisoners and captives.  
(Especially we pray for ...)  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord God,  
John preached the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins  
and suffered imprisonment and death for proclaiming your Law:  
we remember all who have died in your service,  
joining our prayers with John the Baptist, and all the saints;  
grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

God our Father,  
in your tender compassion  
the dawn from on high has broken upon us.  
Shine on those who dwell  
in darkness and the shadow of death  
and guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*[Simon Kershaw\*]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

The Lord God of Israel has come to his people to set them free  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of our salvation,  
as we praise you for your servant John Baptist,  
accept all we bring to you this day,  
and free us to worship you without fear,

in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[BAS (Canada) p411\*]*

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because you prepared the way of your Son Jesus Christ  
by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist,  
who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

*[CW:President's p566]*

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
Among those born of women  
you marked out John the Baptist with your special favour  
as the one who prepared the way before your Son.  
His birth brought great rejoicing;  
even in the womb he leapt for joy, so near was our salvation.  
Alone of all the prophets,  
John hailed the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.  
He baptized Jesus, the author of baptism,  
in waters made holy by the one baptized.  
By shedding his blood  
he gave his last and greatest witness to your Son.  
And so with angels and archangels  
and all the heavenly host  
we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

*[ICEL\*]*

*Blessing*

Through the tender compassion of our God  
may the dawn from on high break upon you  
and guide your feet into the way of peace.  
And the blessing ...

*Acclamation*

The Father's voice bears witness to the Son.  
**God the Holy Trinity has revealed himself to us.**  
The Son bows his head beneath the Baptist's hand.  
**God the Holy Trinity has revealed himself to us.**  
The Spirit as a dove descends from the heavens.  
**God the Holy Trinity has revealed himself to us.**

Submitting to John's baptism, Christ delivers us from bondage.  
**God the Holy Trinity has revealed himself to us.**

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favourably on his people and redeemed them.

*Luke 1.68*

You, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to  
prepare his ways.

*Luke 1.76*

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.

*Luke 1.78*

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the  
light.

*John 1.6,7*

*Mary Magdalene (22 July)*

*Invitation to Confession*

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away; everything becomes new.  
That we may put behind us all that is past let us call to mind our sins.

*cf 2 Cor 5.17*

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord, in your love you invite us to be your friends:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Roman Missal]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia  
Mary Magdalene announced to the disciples,  
"I have seen the Lord."  
**Alleluia.**

With Mary Magdalene and all holy women,  
let us praise our God and call upon him in prayer.

Father, your Son said of the woman who was a sinner,  
“her many sins are forgiven because she has loved much”.  
Forgive the sins of all who love you  
and strengthen your Church to be your love in today’s world.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Many women ministered to the needs of your Son on his saving journeys.  
Open our eyes to see you in those in need or sickness  
and hear our prayer for ... and all those we hold before you.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Mary Magdalene was the first to greet your risen Son  
and carried the news of his triumph over death to the disciples.  
Strengthen us to be faithful witnesses to the gospel in the world  
and grant your grace to all who preach and teach the faith.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Your Son called those who do your will his brother and sister and mother.  
Teach us to live as members of one family, united in faith and love.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Joining in fellowship with Mary Magdalene and all your saints,  
we thank you for ... recently departed  
and all those who have gone before us in the faith.  
Grant that with them we may see your Son face to face  
in everlasting glory.  
Merciful Father ...

*Introduction to the Peace*

God is love  
and those who live in love live in God  
and God lives in them.

*[CW p290]*

*Prayers at the Preparation of the Table*

God of life and health,  
in your Son Jesus Christ  
we find the forgiveness of all that is past,



grant that in this eucharist today  
we may find the healing of all our sins.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p415\*]*

*or*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
grant that by the mystery of your body and blood,  
we may watch at your cross,  
weep at your tomb  
and witness to your resurrection;  
for you are alive and reign,  
now and for ever.

*[J. Priestland Young, Enriching the Liturgy p111]*

## *Preface*

And now we give you thanks that Mary Magdalene,  
who followed Christ in love,  
was first to announce to his apostles  
that he had risen from the dead.

## **Extended Preface**

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
to praise you, the all-powerful Father, in every season,  
and on this holy day to celebrate the glory of your saints.  
In Mary Magdalene you kindled a fire of love for Christ,  
whose word had set her free.  
You gave her the courage of love  
to follow him even to the cross.  
Seeking her teacher after his death,  
so great was her longing  
that you made her the first to behold him  
risen from the dead,  
and the first to announce to the apostles  
his new and glorious risen life.  
Her words still ring throughout your Church,  
to strengthen faith and encourage hope  
in those who gather faithfully for prayer.  
And so with her, and all the citizens of heaven,  
we join our voices to acclaim your glory  
in this their joyful hymn of praise:

*[ICEL\*]*

*Blessing*

May Christ, who makes saints of sinners,  
who has transformed those we remember today,  
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J110]*

*Acclamation*

Mary, do not cling to me.  
**For I have not yet ascended to the Father.**  
Go to my brothers and say to them,  
**“I am ascending to my Father and your Father,  
to my God and your God.”**  
Mary went and said to the disciples,  
**I have seen the Lord. Alleluia.**

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Jesus said to Mary Magdalene: “Go to my brothers and say to them: I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”

*John 20.17*

Those who live, live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

*2 Corinthians 5.15*

Go quickly and tell his disciples: Jesus has been raised from the dead.

*Matthew 28.7*

*The Transfiguration (6 August)*

*Invitation to Confession*

When Christ appears we shall be like him,  
because we shall see him as he is.  
As he is pure,  
all who have grasped this hope make themselves pure.  
So let us confess our sins that mar his image in us.

*[Enriching p78]*

*Kyrie Confession*

Your unfailing kindness, O Lord, is in the heavens,  
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,

and your justice as the great deep:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

For with you is the well of life  
and in your light shall we see light:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p78]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.  
**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

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

Lord of glory, it is good that we are here.  
In peace we make our prayer to you.  
In trust we confirm our faith in you ...  
Help us to set our faces steadfastly to where you would have us go.  
Lord, look with favour.  
**Lord, transfigure and heal.**

Lord of glory, look with favour on your Church,  
proclaiming your beloved Son to the world  
and listening to the promptings of his Spirit ...  
May she be renewed in holiness that she may reflect your glory.  
Lord, look with favour.  
**Lord, transfigure and heal.**

Lord of glory, look with favour on the nations of the world,  
scarred by hatred, strife and war ...  
May they be healed by the touch of your hand.  
Lord, look with favour.  
**Lord, transfigure and heal.**

Lord of glory, look with favour on those in need and distress,  
suffering as your Son has suffered  
and waiting for the salvation you promise ...  
May the day break  
and Christ the Morning Star bring them the light of his presence.  
Lord, look with favour.  
**Lord, transfigure and heal.**

Lord of glory, it is good if we suffer with you

so that we shall be glorified with you.  
According to your promise bring all Christ's brothers and sisters ...  
to see him with their own eyes in majesty  
and to be changed into his likeness from glory to glory.

To him be praise, dominion and worship  
now and for all eternity. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p78-9\*]*

### *Introduction to the Peace*

Christ will transfigure our human body  
and give it a form like that of his own glorious body.  
We are the body of Christ  
We share his peace.

*[Enriching p81]*

### *Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Holy God,  
receive all we bring before you this day,  
and bring us also to that radiant glory  
which we see in the transfigured face  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p418\*]*

### *Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because the divine glory of the incarnate Word  
shone forth upon the holy mountain  
before the chosen witnesses of his majesty;  
and your own voice from heaven proclaimed your beloved Son.

*[CW:President's p598]*

### *Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For on this day he revealed his glory  
before his chosen witnesses  
and filled with divine splendour  
the human flesh in which he is one with us.  
So he prepared his disciples  
to bear the scandal of the cross  
and showed that in the Church, his body,  
the same glory would be fulfilled  
that shone forth from him, its head.  
And so with joyful hearts we echo on earth  
the song of the angels in heaven  
as they praise you glory without end.

*[A. Griffiths/ICEL\*]*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
fill you with radiance  
and scatter the darkness from your path. **Amen.**

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,  
gladden your eyes and warm your heart. **Amen.**

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,  
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*[Enriching p80]*

*or*

Christ Jesus,  
the splendour of the Father and the image of his being,  
draw you to himself  
that you may live in his light and share his glory;  
and the blessing ...

*[Enriching p80]*

*Acclamation*

By the appearance of earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
**God has broken the power of death  
and brought life and immortality to light.**

Arise, shine, for your light has come  
**and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**  
For though darkness shall cover the earth  
**and thick darkness the nations,**

the Lord will rise upon you  
**and his glory will be seen upon you.**  
By the appearance of earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
**God has broken the power of death  
and brought life and immortality to light.**

*[Enriching p80]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

*Isaiah 9.2*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*Isaiah 60.1*

It is good, Lord, to be here.

*Matthew 17.4*

Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

*John 8.12*

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today have I begotten you.'

*Hebrews 5.5*

*Holy Cross Day (14 September)*

*Invitations to Confession*

God shows his love for us  
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Romans 5.8 [CW p312]*

*or*

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,  
so that, free from sins,  
we might live for righteousness;  
by his wounds we have been healed.  
Let us confess our sins.

*cf 1 Peter 2.24 [Enriching p22]*

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus,  
you came to reconcile us to one another and the Father:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you heal the wounds of sin and division:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus,  
you intercede for us with your Father:  
Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p22]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.  
**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

Let us pray to the Father through his Son,  
who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption.

Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church ...  
Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing  
to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bless those who lead the Church's worship ...  
In the preaching of the word  
and the celebration of the sacraments,  
draw your people close to you.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Give your grace to those who preach your word to the nations ...  
Help us to witness to the faith we have received  
by our words and in our deeds,  
and daily conform us more and more to Christ,  
that we may glory in his cross.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much  
that you sent your Son to suffer and to die ...  
Strengthen those who work to share  
the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ  
to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice ...  
Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying,

to find strength in the companionship of Jesus,  
and in his passion to know their salvation.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world  
in your friendship ...  
According to your promises,  
bring them with all your saints  
to share in the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.  
By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

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

*[Enriching p23\*]*

### *Introductions to the Peace*

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

*Ephesians 2.13 [CW p312]*

*or*

Christ is our peace.  
He has reconciled us to God  
in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

*[CW p290]*

### *Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Merciful God,  
through the death of your beloved Son  
you transformed an instrument of shame  
into a sign of hope and glory.  
Receive all we bring before you this day,  
and renew us in the mystery of his love;  
through the same Jesus Christ,  
the Lord of glory.

*[BAS (Canada) p423\*]*

### *Prefaces*

And now we give you thanks  
because, for our salvation,  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

*[CW p312]*



*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because for our sins he was lifted high upon the cross,  
that he might draw the whole world to himself;  
and, by his suffering and death,  
became the source of eternal salvation  
for all who put their trust in him.

*[CW:President's p583]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
that through his suffering and death  
you have brought life to the whole world  
and moved our hearts to praise your glory.  
The power of the cross reveals your judgement on this world  
and the kingship of Christ crucified.

*[Roman Missal\*]*

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Today we celebrate with songs of praise  
the cross, the victory-sign of Christ.  
Once through the fruit of the forbidden tree we fell,  
now through this tree our Saviour cancels all our sin.  
An instrument of shameful death  
has become for Christ a throne of glory.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.  
And so, with choirs of angels  
and all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise.

*Blessing*

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW p313]  
Acclamation*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;  
**by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**  
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.  
**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.**  
We preach Christ crucified,  
the power of God and the wisdom of God.

**By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**  
God forbid that I should glory,  
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;**  
**by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**

*[CW:Daily Prayer p224]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

*Galatians 6.14*

Jesus said, When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.

*John 12.32*

Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

*Colossians 1.20*

*Michael and All Angels (29 September)*

*Invitation to Confession*

We have come to Mount Zion,  
the city of the living God,  
the heavenly Jerusalem,  
to myriads of angels,  
to God, the judge of all,  
and to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant.  
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Hebrews 12.22-24 [Enriching p85]*

*Kyrie Confession*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Woe is me, for I am lost;  
I am a person of unclean lips.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Our guilt is taken away,  
and our sin is forgiven.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p85]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,  
you ministers of his who do his will.  
**Alleluia.**

*Psalms 103.21*

*Intercession*

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

Father in heaven,  
by his blood your Christ has ransomed us to you,  
and has made us a kingdom and priests to you our God.  
As the angels minister to you in heaven,  
strengthen your Church to serve you here on earth.  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father in heaven,  
when the angels greeted the birth of your Son  
they sang for joy 'Glory to God and peace on earth'.  
Bless with Christ's peace the nations of the world.  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father in heaven,  
you Son has promised to your children  
the care of the guardian angels who look upon your face.  
Protect by your mercy our neighbours, families and friends.  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father in heaven,  
you give your angels charge over those who trust in you  
to guard them in all their ways.  
Be with those in trouble...,

rescue them and show them your salvation.  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father in heaven,  
your angel declares 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'  
'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit,  
'for they may rest from their labours,  
for they take with them the record of their deeds.'  
Enfold in your love (...and) all who come in faith  
to your judgement seat in heaven.  
Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father in heaven,  
the angels sing by day and night around your throne:  
'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.'  
With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side,  
with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings,  
with Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing,  
and with the whole company of heaven,  
we worship you, we give you glory,  
we sing your praise and exalt you for ever. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p86-7\*]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

Hear again the song of the angels:  
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of glory,  
as you appointed angels to minister in your presence,  
so may all our worship bring you worthy praise;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p425\*]*

*Prefaces*

Through him the archangels sing your praise,  
the angels fulfil your commands,  
the cherubim and seraphim continually proclaim your holiness;  
the whole company of heaven glorifies your name  
and rejoices to do your will.  
Therefore we pray that our voices may be heard with theirs,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord ...**

*[CW:President's p598]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
and praise you holy name  
because the splendour of your faithful angels and archangels  
shows us your greatness,  
which surpasses in goodness the whole of creation.  
So as the hosts of angels rejoice in your glory,  
we give you, their Creator, glory and worship.  
In adoration and joy we make their hymn of praise our own:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord ...**

*[Enriching p88-9]*

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
You reveal your wise purpose  
for the salvation of the human race  
by assigning to the angels and archangels  
the ministry of your steadfast love and protection.  
While they contemplate your glory,  
standing before you and singing your praise,  
they keep a faithful vigil for us,  
guarding us along the way that leads to life,  
and guiding us towards the kingdom of your light.  
In joyful gladness we unite our voices with theirs  
and sing the ageless hymn of your praise:

*[A. Griffiths p224\*]*

*Blessings and Endings*

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints;  
Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels;  
the Spirit make you holy in God's service;  
and the blessing...

*[Enriching p87]*

*or*

God bring you to the home  
that Christ prepares for all who love him.  
**Amen.**

God give you the will to live each day  
in life eternal.  
**Amen.**

God make you citizens of heaven,  
with the whole company of the redeemed.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing...

*[Enriching p88]*

*or*

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise  
more than we can utter, more than we can conceive,  
be to you, most holy and glorious Trinity,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
from all angels, and all people, all creatures  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*[Enriching p91]*

*Acclamation*

The Lord commands his angels

**to keep you in all your ways.**

Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power,

**who fulfil his command and heed the voice of his word.**

Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts,

**his servants that do his will.**

Give thanks to the Lord, all his works,

in every place where he rules,

**my soul, give thanks to the Lord.**

For he commands his angels,

**to keep you in all your ways.**

*[Enriching p87]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you his angels; praise him all his host.

*Psalms 148.1-2*

And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb."

*Revelation 19.9*

Mortals ate the bread of angels;  
the Lord sent them food in plenty.

*Psalms 78.25*

*Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr (26 December)*

*Invitation to Confession*

As Stephen rebuked God's people  
for not listening to the Word of God,  
let us confess our stubbornness and sin which resist the Holy Spirit.

Kyrie Confession

You call us to listen to your voice.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You command us to flee from idolatry.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You ask us to forgive our persecutors.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.  
I see the heavens opened  
and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.  
**Alleluia.**

*Acts 7.56*

Intercession

Full of the Holy Spirit, let us approach the throne of grace,  
and bring our prayers to Jesus the Lord.

Incarnate Lord,  
you came down to earth from heaven  
to embrace the pain and sorrows of our sinful world,  
We pray for all who are persecuted for the cause of truth ...

We pray for all who hold authority over people  
as political or religious leaders,  
that they may exercise their power with justice  
and for the common good ...

We pray for those who use violence to silence their opponents ...

We pray for grace to witness to your truth with constancy and faith and to bear the cost of following your righteous ways.

***We pray for those for whom the joy of this holy season  
is overshadowed by pain, grief or failure ...***

We remember all who have gone before us looking for the vision  
of your heavenly glory ...

We rejoice in our communion with Stephen  
and all the saints and martyrs,

whose hope was in you, the Word made flesh  
and with whom we for evermore are one.

Lord, receive our prayers  
and perfect them by your heavenly intercession,  
to the glory of the Father. **Amen.**

## Introduction to the Peace

Jesus said: In the world you face persecution.  
But take courage; I have conquered the world!

*John 16.33*

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Look upon us in mercy not in judgment;  
draw us from hatred to love;  
make the frailty of our praise  
a dwelling place for your glory.

*[CW p293]*

## Preface

And now we give you thanks  
for the example of your chosen servant Stephen;  
as a deacon he preached the good news of your Kingdom;  
he saw your glory, and as the first martyr  
he committed his spirit to the Saviour.

*[Promise p198]*

## Extended Preface

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For love of us fallen sinners  
he most wonderfully and humbly chose to be made human,  
and to take our nature upon him,  
so that we might be born again by your Spirit  
and restored in your image.  
The love that brought him down to earth  
lifted your martyr Stephen from earth to heaven.  
By that love he spoke your word  
with wisdom and the Spirit;  
by that love he saw your glory  
and Jesus at your right hand;  
by that love he overcame the anger of his accusers  
and forgave their cruelty;  
by that love he committed his spirit into your hands  
and won the crown of righteousness.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven



## Advent

we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

*[Promise p198\*]*

## Blessing

God give you grace to be faithful witnesses,  
to see heaven opened and the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ;  
and the blessing ...

## Acclamation

Stephen, full of grace and power,  
**did great wonders and signs among the people.**  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
**is the death of his saints.**

## Short Passages of Scripture

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great signs and wonders among the people

*Acts 6.8*

I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

*Acts 7.56, 59*

## *John, Apostle and Evangelist (27 December)*

## Invitation to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.  
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just,  
and will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1.8-9 [ASB p48]*

## ***Kyrie Confession***

Lord Jesus, you are the Lamb of God who takes away  
the sins of the world.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you came not to condemn the world,  
but that the world might be saved.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

## Advent

Lord Jesus, you are the Saviour of the world.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.  
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory.  
**Alleluia.**

*[CW p302]*

## Intercession

Rejoicing in the love and life of God made visible among us,  
let us pray to Jesus, the only-begotten Son.

Bread of Life,  
your beloved disciple John has brought us your living word,  
inspire all evangelists and teachers to build up your Church ...

Light of the World,  
illuminate the dark places of this world where sin, violence and death cast their shadow over human lives ...

Door of the Sheepfold,  
protect all who are in trouble or danger,  
and gave grace to our loved ones, families, and friends ...

Way, truth and life,  
minister to all who are lost, misguided or without faith;  
bind up the broken, and give rest to the weary ...

Resurrection and the life,  
raise us up at the last day  
    with all who have gone before us in faith,  
with those whom we love but see no longer,  
with John and all your saints,  
that in your Father's house we may come to the place  
    you have prepared for us. **Amen.**

## Introduction to the Peace

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.

*John 14.27*

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Word made flesh, life of the world,  
in your incarnation you embraced our poverty:  
by your spirit may we share in your riches.

### Preface

And now we give you thanks  
for the grace and truth shown forth  
in John, your evangelist and apostle;  
by the light of Christ's appearing  
we behold your glory  
and are born again to life eternal.

*[Promise p199]*

### Extended Preface

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord;  
for he is the Word before all creation,  
the Life made manifest,  
the Light who shines in the darkness  
He is the living Bread who has come down from heaven,  
the Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for the sheep,  
the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
He stands among us in his risen power,  
and shows us his hands and his side.  
With joy we worship him as our Lord and our God.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
We lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
And sing our joyful hymn of praise:

### Blessing

Grace from the eternal Father be with you;  
grace from the Word made flesh be with you;  
grace from the Spirit of truth be with you;  
and the blessing ...

### Acclamation

This is the message we have heard:  
**the message we proclaim:**  
that God is light  
**in him there is no darkness at all.**  
If we walk in the light  
**as he is in the light,**  
we have fellowship with one another,  
**and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.**

### Short Passages of Scripture

This is the disciple who is bearing witness to these things,  
and we know that his testimony is true.

*John 21.24*

These things are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that  
through believing you may have life in his name.

*John 20.31*

## The Holy Innocents (28 December)

### Invitation to Confession

On this day when we recall the murder of innocent lives, let us stand before our just and holy God, and remembering the violence and injustice of our world, confess our sins in penitence and faith.

### Kyrie Confession

You are the God of the weak and the vulnerable.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You judge the tyrant and the cruel.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You wipe away the tears of the broken-hearted.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Never despise these little ones;  
their guardian angels in heaven look continuously on the face of my heavenly Father.  
**Alleluia.**

### Matthew 18.10

### Intercession

In peace let us pray to the God of love.

Righteous God,  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ dwelt among us and shared our grief and our pain.

We pray for the children of our world,  
that they may grow up knowing love and security.

We pray for all children who suffer physical or mental abuse.

We pray for all communities in our world  
who live with the memories of massacre and gross cruelty.

We pray for parents and guardians that they may be given grace  
to care for the children entrusted to them.

We pray for all who are corrupted by power  
and who regard human life as cheap.

We pray for parents who have suffered the death of a child.

As we celebrate the coming of the Christ-child,  
we rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Innocents  
and commit the children of this community,  
our nation and our world to you,

our righteous God.

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

## Introduction to the Peace

I will comfort you, says the Lord, as a mother comforts her child,  
and you shall be comforted.

*Isaiah 63.13*

## Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Pour upon the poverty of our love,  
and the weakness of our praise,  
the transforming fire of your presence.

## Preface

And now we give you thanks  
for the witness of the infants  
who died cruelly, not knowing the new-born Christ,  
that your grace might be made perfect in human weakness,  
and the way of salvation prepared in our sinful world.

*[Promise p199]*

## Extended Preface

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
In love for our fallen human race,  
you sent your Son  
into the world to lighten our darkness.  
In his life,  
    he rejoiced in the innocence and beauty of children;  
in his death,  
    he carried in his body the violence and cruelty of our world;  
in his resurrection  
    he brought life and salvation to his people  
    and began the new creation.  
As our ascended and merciful High Priest,  
he hears our cries and knows our grief;  
and will come as universal Lord to whom all must give account.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

## Blessing

God, who gives life to the dead and comfort to the desolate,  
sustain you, keep you and console you,  
and the blessing ...

## Acclamation

Let the little children come to me  
**for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.**

Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of heaven like a child  
**will never enter it.**

### Short Passages of Scripture

I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

*Jeremiah 31.13*

They have been ransomed as the first fruits of humankind, and they follow the Lamb wherever he goes. *Revelation 14.4*

## **COMMON OF THE SAINTS**

### *The Blessed Virgin Mary*

#### *Invitations to Confession*

We have done what was wrong in the Lord's sight  
and chosen what displeased him.  
Yet as a mother comforts her child,  
so shall the Lord himself comfort us.  
So let us come to him who knows our every deed and thought.

*[Enriching p115]*

*or*

Born of a woman, born under the law,  
Christ has redeemed us from the curse of sin:  
let us come to him that he may heal us and set us free:

*[Eric Simmons CR]*

#### *Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father;  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p115]*

#### *Gospel Acclamations*

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
My soul magnifies the Lord  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 1. 46, 47*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with  
favour on the lowliness of his servant.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 1.47, 48*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

**Alleluia.**

*cf Luke 1.28, 42*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

**Alleluia.**

*cf Luke 1.28, 42*

### *Intercession*

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we say with Mary:

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

**Holy is your name.**

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive  
and bear a son who would be called God-with-us.

Help us to look forward to your deliverance  
and to seek the fullness of your kingdom.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

**Holy is your name.**

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be  
the mother of the Saviour.

Help (...and) every Christian person to be open to your word  
and obedient to your will.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

**Holy is your name.**

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang your praise,  
'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.'

Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

**Holy is your name.**

Mary bore a son of David's line,  
a king whose reign would never end.

Bless (... and) all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

**Holy is your name.**



The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature  
in the home of Mary and Joseph.  
Strengthen our homes and families,  
and keep under your protection (... and) all those whom we love.  
Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.  
**Holy is your name.**

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother,  
and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms.  
Give comfort and healing to (... and) all who suffer  
and all who watch the suffering of those they love.  
Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.  
**Holy is your name.**

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven,  
robed with the sun.  
Bring us with (... and) all those who have died in the faith of Christ  
to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.  
Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.  
**Holy is your name.**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who stooped to raise fallen humanity  
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary:  
grant that we, who have seen your glory  
            revealed in our human nature  
and your love made perfect in our weakness,  
may daily be renewed in your image  
and conformed to the pattern of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p115-117]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace

*Isaiah 9.6*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God our Father,  
your handmaid Mary fed your Son at her virgin breast.  
Nourish us at this table with the bread of heaven  
and the cup of salvation.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
 because, by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
 he took our nature upon him  
 and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother,  
 that being himself without sin,  
 he might make us clean from all sin.

[CW p302]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
 because in choosing the blessed Virgin Mary  
     to be the mother of your Son  
 you have exalted the humble and meek.  
 Your angel hailed her as most highly favoured;  
 with all generations we call her blessed  
 and with her we rejoice and magnify your holy name.

[CW:President's p570]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
 that he is your eternal Son, the King of glory.  
 When he took our flesh to set us free  
 he did not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
 Seated at your right hand in glory,  
 he will come to be our judge  
 and to bring us with the saints to glory everlasting.

[Enriching p119]

*or*

And now we give you thanks because  
 he shared our life in human form  
 from the warmth of Mary's womb  
 to the stillness of the grave.

[New Patterns G99]

### *Extended Prefaces*

It is indeed right and good,  
 our duty and our salvation,  
 almighty Father, ever-living God,  
 to proclaim the wonders you have worked in all your saints,  
 and on the feast of Mary, ever blessed,  
 to echo her praise of your loving kindness.  
 For you have truly done great things  
 and holy is your name,  
 and your mercy is on those who fear you  
 in every generation.  
 When you looked with favour on your lowly servant  
 you remembered your promise of mercy

and gave the world through her  
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Through him the hosts of heaven adore you  
and rejoice in your presence for ever.  
May our voices join with theirs  
in the triumphant hymn of praise:

[ICEL\*]

*or*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
almighty Father, ever-living God,  
to give you thanks and praise  
for the work of your grace in the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
For by the overshadowing of your Holy Spirit  
she conceived and bore the Word made flesh.  
At the cross she kept her vigil,  
and saw the saving work of your Son brought to its perfection.  
She rejoiced in his resurrection,  
and joining her prayers with those of the apostles,  
was filled with the gift of your promised Spirit.  
In her you show us the greatness of your love,  
and the wonderful purpose you intend for all your children.  
Therefore we join our voice with hers,  
and all the company of heaven,  
as they sing with joy the hymn of your glory:

*See also Extended Preface for Christmas, CW p303*

*See also Extended Preface for the Annunciation, CW p310*

### *Blessings*

May the Father,  
who has loved the eternal Son  
from before the foundation of the world,  
shed that love upon you his children. **Amen.**

May Christ,  
who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with joy and peace. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,  
by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer,  
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ. **Amen.**

And the blessing...

[CW:President's p571]

*or*

When the Word became flesh  
earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary:  
may the love and obedience of Mary be your example. **Amen.**

May the peace of Christ  
rule in your hearts and homes. **Amen.**

May you be filled with the joy of the Spirit  
and the gifts of your eternal home. **Amen.**

And the blessing...

*[New Patterns J78]*

*or*

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW p307]*

*or*

May the love of the Holy Family surround you.  
May the joy that was Mary's refresh you.  
May the faithfulness that was Joseph's encourage you.  
May the peace of the Christ Child fill your lives. **Amen.**

*[Enriching p124]*

*Acclamation*

Blessed is she who had faith  
that the Lord's promise would be fulfilled.  
**All generations shall call her blessed.**  
So tenderly has he looked upon his servant.  
**All generations shall call her blessed.**  
Blessed is she among women and blessed is the fruit of her womb.  
**All generations shall call her blessed.**  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
Holy is his name.  
**All generations shall call her blessed.**

*[Enriching p117]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.

*Luke 1.45*

Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word."

*Luke 1.38*

Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

*Luke 11.28*

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

*Luke 2.19*

### *Apostles and Evangelists*

#### *Invitations to Confession*

We run the race set before us,  
surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.  
Therefore let us lay aside every weight,  
and the sin which clings so closely,  
bringing them to Jesus in penitence and faith.

*Heb 12.1 [Enriching p125]*

*or*

Jesus said to his apostles,  
'You are my friends if you obey my commands'  
Let us now confess our disobedience to him.

*[Enriching p125]*

#### *Confessions*

You were sent to preach the good news of light  
in the darkness of the world:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You were sent to plant in our hearts the seed of eternal life:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You were sent to reconcile us to yourself  
by the shedding of your blood:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p125]*

*or*

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p126]*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I do not call you servants but friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything that I have heard from my Father.

*John 15.15*

**Alleluia.**

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

*John 15.16*

**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints,  
let us make our prayers to the Father through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father, your Son called men and women to leave the past behind them and to follow him as his disciples in the way of the cross. Look with mercy upon those whom he calls today, marks with the cross and makes his disciples within the Church ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son told his disciples not to be afraid and at Easter breathed on them his gift of peace. Look with mercy upon the world into which he sent them out, and give it that peace for which it longs ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son formed around him a company who were no longer servants but friends, and he called all those who obeyed him his brother and sister and mother. Look with mercy upon our families and our friends and upon the communities in which we share ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son sent out disciples to preach and heal the sick. Look with mercy on all those who yearn to hear the good news of salvation, and renew among your people the gifts of healing ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Your Son promised to those who followed him that they would sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel and would share the banquet of the kingdom. According to your promise, look with mercy on those who have walked with Christ in this life and now have passed through death ...

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p126-7]*

Almighty God,  
you have built your Church upon the foundation  
of the apostles and prophets,  
with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone:  
so join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine,  
that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*[CW:President's p204\*]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God,  
through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace  
to those who were far off and those who were near.

*Ephesians 2.19, 17 [CW p324]*

*Prayers at the Preparation of the Table*

Father, accept all we bring before you this day.  
Guide us with your love and feed us at your table  
as you nourish the faith of the Church  
by the preaching of your apostles.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p424\*]*

*or*

God our Father,  
keep us united in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread and the prayers,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*cf Acts 2.42*

*Prefaces*

And now we give you thanks  
because your Son Jesus Christ after his resurrection  
sent forth his apostles and evangelists  
to preach the gospel to all nations  
and to teach us the way of truth.

*[CW:President's p606]*

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because you formed your Church on the apostles  
to stand firm for ever,  
as a sign on earth of your infinite holiness  
and the living gospel for all to hear.

*[Enriching p131\*]*

It is indeed right and good  
that we should give you thanks, praise and glory,  
almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ our Son our Lord.  
For after his resurrection  
he sent out his apostles and evangelists  
to preach the gospel to all nations  
and lead us in the way of truth.  
Himself the chief corner stone,  
he founded his Church upon the apostles  
firmly to stand for ever  
as a sign of your holiness upon earth  
and a living witness to all  
of the way that leads to heaven.  
And so with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
we lift our voices  
and join in their unending hymn of praise.

*[ICEL\*]*

*Blessing and Ending*

God, who has prepared for you a city with eternal foundations,  
bring you, with all the saints,  
to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city;  
and the blessing...

*[Enriching p130]*

*or*

May the infinite and glorious Trinity,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
direct our life in good works,  
and after our journey through this world,  
grant us eternal rest with the saints.  
**Amen.**

*[CW:Pastoral p330]*

*Acclamation*

The Lord is righteous and delights in righteous deeds;  
the just shall see his face.  
**The Lord is righteous and delights in righteous deeds;  
the just shall see his face.**  
When the foundations are being destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?  
**The just shall see his face.**  
His eyes behold the inhabited world;  
his piercing eye weighs our worth.  
**The just shall see his face.**



The Lord weighs the righteous as well as the wicked,  
but those that delight in violence he abhors.

**The just shall see his face.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord is righteous and delights in righteous deeds;  
the just shall see his face.**

*[Enriching p129]*

### *Short Passages of Scripture*

Jesus said to the disciples, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

*Mark 16.15*

Do not be afraid: you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; you will see him, just as he told you.

*Mark 16. 6,7*

Jesus said, "I am with you always, to the end of the age."

*Matthew 28.20*

Jesus said to his disciples, "I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

*John 14.13*

### *Martyrs*

### *Invitations to Confession*

The saints were faithful unto death  
and now dwell in the heavenly kingdom for ever.  
As we celebrate their joy,  
let us bring to the Lord our sins and weaknesses,  
and ask for his mercy.

*[New Patterns B32]*

### *Kyrie Confession*

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We often fail to walk the way of the Cross.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[New Patterns B58]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

The one who endures to the end will be saved.

*Matthew 10.22*

**Alleluia.**

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Whoever would become my followers,

let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

*Matthew 16.24*

**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

[We pray for strength to follow Jesus.

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.]**

Jesus said: 'Whoever wishes to be great among you  
must be your servant.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Unless you change  
and become humble like little children,  
you can never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Happy are the humble;  
they will receive what God has promised.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Be merciful as your Father is merciful;  
love your enemies and do good to them.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Love one another, as I love you;  
there is no greater love than this,  
to lay down your life for your friends.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Jesus said: 'Go to people everywhere  
and make them my disciples,  
and I will be with you always, to the end of time.'

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

God of mercy,  
**you know us and love us**  
**and hear our prayer:**  
**keep us in the eternal fellowship of**  
**Jesus Christ our Saviour.**  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns F43]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

*Ephesians 2.13 [CW p312]*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of faithfulness,  
your servant *N* praised you in *his/her* death.  
Receive all we bring before you this day,  
and give us the strength of will  
to proclaim your righteousness and love.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p423\*]*

*Prefaces*

*For one martyr*

And now we give you thanks  
that in the witness of your martyr *N*  
who followed Christ even to death  
you reveal your power made perfect in our human weakness.

*[CW:President's p606\*]*

*or for many martyrs*

And now we give you thanks,  
glorified in the assembly of your saints,  
for your martyrs who bless you and praise you,  
confessing before the powers of this world  
the great name of your only Son.

*[Enriching p145]*

*Extended Prefaces*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
For following the example of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
your holy martyr *N* shed his/her blood for the glory of your name.  
His/her death reveals your power made perfect in our human frailty.

You choose the weak and make them strong  
in bearing witness to you  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
With joyful hearts we echo on earth  
the song of the angels in heaven  
as they praise your glory without end.

[ICEL\*]

*or*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God  
and to praise the wonder of your work  
revealed in the lives of *N (N)* and all your holy martyrs.  
Before the foundation of the universe  
you chose them in Christ as your witnesses,  
to glorify your name  
and reveal before the world the light of your truth.  
By the holy Spirit you gave them great courage  
so that in the very weakness of this mortal body  
they might conquer death and overcome its power.  
And so we join with them and all the powers of heaven  
to glorify your holy name  
in this their joyful hymn of praise:

[A. Griffiths p253\*]

*Blessing*

God give you grace to follow his saints  
in faith and love and steadfastness  
And the blessing ...

### *Short Passages of Scripture*

Jesus said, "Those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it."

*Mark 8.35*

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Romans 8.38, 39*

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."

*John 12.24*

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

*Romans 6.8*

*Teachers of the Faith*

*Invitation to Confession*

In sorrow for our sins and with faith in his mercy, let us turn to the Lord,  
for with him there is mercy and plenteous redemption.

*Kyrie Confession*

May your loving mercy come to me, O Lord,  
and your salvation according to your word:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light to my path:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

O let your mercy come to me that I may live,  
for your law is my delight:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[CW p133]*

*Gospel Acclamations*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
You are the light of the world:  
no one after lighting a lamp puts it under a basket  
but on the lampstand and it gives light to all.  
**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 5.14*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Whoever keeps the commandments and teaches them  
will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.  
**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 5.19*

*Intercession*

[We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.]**

Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations ...  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to the hungry ...

and nourish us all with your word.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way ...  
Deepen our appreciation of your truth  
and fill us with your life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover the straggler,  
bind up the injured,  
strengthen the sick  
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us.**

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and  
believed in you ...  
Raise us with them to eternal life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
**in your mercy, hear us,  
accept our prayers, and be with us always.  
Amen.**

*[New Patterns F67]*

### *Introduction to the Peace*

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;  
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom,  
and may the peace of the Lord be always with you.

### *Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of truth,  
accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.  
May we share in the wisdom of your eternal Word,  
who makes himself known in the breaking of bread,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada) p436\*]*

### *Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
that *N* became a teacher in your Church  
through the gifts of the Holy Spirit of Christ.  
*His/her* learning shines as a burning light,  
a guide for all who follow the way to eternal life.

### *Extended Preface*

It is truly right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
For he has named his Church  
the salt of the earth and light of the world;  
a city set on a hill which cannot be hidden.  
Within this faithful company  
your servant *N* became a learned teacher  
through the gifts of the Holy Spirit of Christ,  
that all might welcome *his/her* teaching as your gift,  
a beacon on the path of holiness  
that leads to eternal life.  
As now we celebrate *his/her* memory  
we join with angels and archangels  
and all who have served you on earth  
and worship you now in heaven  
to raise our voices and proclaim your glory  
for ever praising you and saying ...

*[A. Griffiths p262\*]*

*Blessing*

God grant you grace to be good servants of Christ Jesus,  
nourished on the words of the faith  
and on the sound teaching that you have followed.  
And the blessing ...

*cf 1 Tim 4.6*

*Acclamation*

There are varieties of gifts:  
**but the same Spirit.**  
There are varieties of service:  
**but the same Lord.**  
There are different kinds of working:  
**but the same God is at work in all.**  
There is one body, one Spirit, one hope in God's call:  
**one Lord, one faith, one baptism.**  
There is one God, Father of all, over all and in all:  
**to whom Christ ascended on high.**  
And through his Spirit he gives us gifts:  
**some are apostles, some are his prophets;**  
evangelists, pastors and teachers he gives us:  
**so that we can minister together**  
to build up his body:  
**to be mature in the fullness of Christ.**

*[Enriching p216-7]  
Short Passages of Scripture*

Wisdom will open his mouth in the midst of the assembly. He will find gladness and a crown of rejoicing.

*Ecclesiasticus 15.5,6*

Jesus said, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of the treasury what is new and what is old."

*Matthew 13.52*

Let your heart hold fast my words; get wisdom; do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you.

*Proverbs 4.4,6*

Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour."

*John 12.26*

Show yourself in all respects a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, and sound speech that cannot be censured.

*Titus 2.7,8*

### *Bishops and Other Pastors*

#### *Invitation to Confession*

Jesus is the Good Shepherd: in every generation he raises up overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with his own blood.

We are sinners: let us call to mind the times when we have failed to hear his voice and not followed where he has led.

*cf Acts 20.28*

#### *Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus, you call by name those who are yours:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you lead us in the right paths for your name's sake:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the door of the sheepfold, those who enter by you will be saved:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**



*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd: I know my own and my own know me.

**Alleluia.**

*John 10.14*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Make disciples of the nations: baptising and teaching them,  
as I have commanded you.

**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 27.19,20*

*Intercession*

Heavenly Father, in every age you raise up pastors and  
leaders for your Church to reflect the light of Christ  
and to lead us in the way of holiness.

We thank you for those who have been shepherds of your flock:  
bless your Church today with gifts of care and nurture,  
give a pastoral heart to bishops, priests and deacons,  
and strengthen all who are called to be leaders of your people.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for the gifts of grace in the life of Saint *N*:  
give wisdom and insight to all in authority in Church and State  
that they may use their power for good  
and the benefit of those over whom they are set.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those pastors and spiritual directors  
whose influence is hidden from the world:  
bless them in their quiet guidance of those who seek after your holiness and truth.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those who give pastoral care  
to the sick and the suffering:  
help those who are distressed through following bad advice.  
Have mercy on those whose lives lack purpose or direction  
and bring them the care they need for wholeness and healing.  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for all who have worked to lead others  
into the way of truth and are now at rest:  
grant us in this life the spiritual guidance and pastoral care

that will lead us to eternal life.  
Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, make us worthy of everlasting joy  
in the fellowship of *N* and all your saints  
in the glory of your kingdom,  
where you live and reign,  
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Shepherd of Israel, your flock is never without care.  
Accept our sacrifice of praise and grant that your Church  
may always rejoice in faithful pastors, servants of Christ,  
and stewards of your mysteries.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*[BAS (Canada)\*]*

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
for the work of your grace in the life of Saint *N*.  
As a shepherd of your flock he imitated your Son,  
inspired us by his life,  
and taught us by his preaching.

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Today we honour *N*, who in your loving providence  
enabled your Church to grow in spirit as the body of Christ.  
To your children he faithfully proclaimed the good news of salvation  
and nourished them by ministering your sacraments.  
Through a pastor's love he led your people to share your grace  
and witness to the world  
in the communion of one true faith  
and in the work of selfless charity.  
On this his feast, we join with him to praise you  
and in the company of angels and all the host of heaven  
we sing forever of your glory:

*Blessing*

Christ the good shepherd,  
who laid down his life for the sheep,  
draw you and all who hear his voice,  
to be one flock within one fold;  
and the blessing ...

*[New Patterns J55]*

*Acclamation*

Jesus says: I am the good shepherd.

**The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**

Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.

**The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**

I know my sheep and call them by name.

**The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.**

*Short Passages of Scripture*

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news; he has sent me to proclaim release to the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

*Luke 4.18, 19*

Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son.

*Acts 20.28*

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

*John 15.16*

Jesus said, "Blessed is that servant whom the master will find at work when he arrives."

*Matthew 24.46*

*Members of Religious Communities*

*Invitation to Confession*

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world  
that we should be holy and blameless before him in love.  
Let us confess our sins and failings  
and ask him who is rich in mercy for forgiveness and peace.

**Kyrie Confession**

You give your kingdom to the poor in spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You give the earth for an inheritance to those who are meek:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You show yourself to those who are pure in heart:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Behold the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ,  
who is the very image of God.  
**Alleluia.**

*2 Corinthians 4.4*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news.  
**Alleluia.**

*Isaiah 52.7*

*Introduction to the Peace*

Jesus says, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.'

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Lord, accept the gifts we bring to your table  
on this feast of Saint *N*.  
Free us from the things that keep us from you  
and teach us to seek you as our only good.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks for *N*  
and all who have consecrated their lives to Christ  
for the sake of the kingdom;  
for in them you show us your saving love  
and call us back to holiness.  
Therefore with angels ...

*Extended Preface*

It is truly right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
This day we honour you in Saint *N*  
who consecrated *his/her* life to Christ  
for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.  
In *him/her* you show us your saving love  
as you call the human race back to its first holiness,

and invite us to taste on earth  
the gifts of the world to come.  
In communion with angels and archangels,  
and all who served you on earth  
and worship you now in heaven,  
we raise our voice to proclaim your glory,  
for ever praising you and saying:

### *Acclamation*

The Lord our God the Almighty reigns.  
**Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.**  
The marriage of the Lamb has come.  
**The bride has made herself ready.**  
I have found him whom my soul loves.  
**I held him, and would not let him go.**  
The Lord our God the Almighty reigns.  
**Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.**  
*Revelation 19.6-7; Song of Solomon 3.4*

### *Short Passages of Scripture*

I will meditate on your commandments and give attention to your ways, O Lord.  
*Psalms 119.15*

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God.  
*Isaiah 61.10*

Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life.  
*Matthew 19.29*

Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.  
*Luke 12.32*

### *Missionaries*

### *Invitations to Confession*

Jesus said to the apostles, "Go and make disciples of all the nations."  
Conscious of our failure to obey his commands,  
let us call to mind our sins.

*Kyrie Confession*

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
into the peace of God's kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.  
**Alleluia.**

*2 Corinthians 5.17*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
The kingdom of God has come near to you.  
**Alleluia.**

*Luke 10.9*

*Introduction to the Peace*

We are fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God,  
through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace  
to those who were far off and those who were near.

*Ephesians 2.19,17 [CW p324]*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

God of our salvation,  
your love for the world is without end.  
May our participation in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
renew us in our dedication to your mission.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ the Lord.

*[BAS (Canada)\*]*

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks that your servant *N*  
was called by your Spirit  
to preach the Gospel to the nations  
and to bring to your people  
the glorious light of your truth.

It is indeed right and good,  
 our duty and our salvation,  
 always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
 Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
 Christ has never ceased to call disciples;  
 he sends them to bring salvation to the nations  
 by the light of the Gospel.  
 For this work your servant *N* was set apart by the Spirit;  
 in faith and obedience *he* went to peoples far away.  
 You called *him* to be all things to everyone  
 as a minister of your Word,  
 so that in your sight the nations might become  
 a holy sacrifice, acceptable to you.  
 And so we join with all your saints  
 to sing of your great glory  
 in this their joyful hymn of praise:

*Blessing*

May God, whose glory is reflected in the lives of his saints,  
 pour upon you the riches of his grace,  
 and equip you and strengthen you to proclaim his word.  
 And the blessing ...

*Acclamation*

Go, make disciples of all nations,  
 baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
 and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**We will tell of his wonderful deeds  
 and be glad and exult in him.**  
 Sing praise to the name of the Lord most high.  
**We will tell of his wonderful deeds  
 and be glad and exult in him.**  
 Sing praise to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.  
**We will declare his deeds among the peoples.  
 We will sing and be glad and rejoice in his holy name.**

*Short Passages of Scripture*

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who  
 brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

*Isaiah 52.7*

Proclaim to the city the message that I tell you.

*Jonah 3.1*

The Lord gave the word; great was the company of those who bore the tidings

*Psalm 68.11*

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

*Mark 6.15*

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ and has enlisted us in this service of reconciliation.

*2 Corinthians 5.18*

### *Any Saint; Holy Men and Women*

#### *Invitations to Confession*

The saints were faithful unto death  
and now dwell in the heavenly kingdom for ever.  
As we celebrate their joy,  
let us bring to the Lord our sins and weaknesses,  
and ask for his mercy.

*[New Patterns B32]*

*or*

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love  
with all the saints in earth and heaven.  
Knowing our unworthiness and sin,  
let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

*[New Patterns B30]*

#### *Kyrie Confession*

Let judgement for me come forth from your presence,  
and let your eyes discern the right:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Search my heart and visit me;  
try me by fire:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye;  
hide me under the shadow of your wings:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*or*



Lord you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all,  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name,  
and speak of your glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*or*  
You give your kingdom to the poor in spirit:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You satisfy those who hunger for righteousness and justice:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You give joy and gladness to those who mourn:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*[Enriching p138]*

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
I have called you friends, says the Lord,  
for all that I have heard from my Father  
I have made known to you.  
**Alleluia.**

*cf John 15.15*

*or, in Lent*  
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
I have called you friends, says the Lord,  
for all that I have heard from my Father  
I have made known to you.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

*cf John 15.15*

*or*  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
**Alleluia.**

*Matthew 5.8*

*or*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

*Matthew 5.9*

**Alleluia.**

*Intercession*

*Not every section of this intercession need be used on every occasion.*

In every age you have raised up holy men and women  
to reflect the light of Christ and to teach us the way of holiness.

We thank you for those who have been teachers  
in the school of Christ:  
give understanding to those who study  
the faith the Church has handed on,  
and clarity to those who communicate the gospel  
in a changing world ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those who have been shepherds of your people:  
give a pastoral heart to deacons, priests and bishops,  
and the needful gifts to all your people in their ministry ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those who have been Christian rulers in the world,  
and for those who carried the good news  
to lands where it had not been before:

give wisdom to all who have power and influence among the nations,  
and establish God's sovereignty among people of every race ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those whom you have called to live in community:  
establish mutual love among those drawn into fellowship  
in your service,  
and bless with Christ's presence all the communities to which we relate ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those  
who have lived out their vocation in family life:  
give your grace to all who nurture children  
and all who care for the aged,  
and enfold in your love all your sons and daughters ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for those who have brought wholeness  
through the medicine of the gospel:

give skill to all who minister healing and reconciliation in your name,  
and comfort all who cry out to you from any sort of distress ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We thank you for the noble army of martyrs  
by the shedding of whose blood the Church has been enriched:  
keep under your protection those who are persecuted for the cause of Christ,  
and acknowledge, we pray,  
those who have passed through death trusting your promises ...

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

[We thank you today for...

As we celebrate his/her memory and rejoice in his/her friendship,  
we ask you to bless ...

Keep in one communion and fellowship all those for whom Christ died.

Lord, hear us.

**Lord, graciously hear us.]**

Hasten, Lord, the day when people will come from east and west,  
from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom,  
and we shall see your Son in his glory.  
Merciful Father ...

*[Enriching p139-141]*

*or*

United in the company of all the faithful and looking  
for the coming of the kingdom,  
let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.  
Merciful Lord,  
strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit  
that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation  
to the praise of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Bless N our bishop, and all ministers of your Church,  
that by faithful proclamation of your word  
we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets  
into a holy temple in the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Empower us by the gift of your holy and life-giving Spirit  
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ  
from glory to glory.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Give to the world and its peoples  
the peace that comes from above,  
that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love  
in the service of the poor and needy;  
all those who minister to the sick and dying;  
and all who bring light to those in darkness.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin and pain,  
that, raised from death to life in Christ,  
their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Remember in your mercy those gone before us  
who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity;  
preserve us who live here in your faith,  
guide us to your kingdom, and grant us your peace at all times.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Hasten the day when those who fear you in every nation  
will come from east and west, from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

And so we give you thanks  
for the whole company of your saints in glory,  
with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises;  
by your grace may we like them be made perfect in your love.  
Blessing and glory and wisdom,  
thanksgiving and honour and power,  
be to our God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*[New Patterns F75\*]*

*Introduction to the Peace*

May the God of peace sanctify you:  
may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness  
that you may be blameless before him  
at the coming of our Lord Jesus with his saints.

*1 Thessalonians 5.23; 3.13*

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Eternal God,  
we give you thanks for the triumph of Christ  
in the life of your servant *N*.  
Accept this sacrifice of thanks and praise

and give us grace to run our course with faith,  
that we may come with all your saints to the eternal banquet in heaven,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

[BAS (Canada)\*]

*Prefaces*

And now we give you thanks  
that your glory is revealed in [N and] all the saints.  
In their lives you have given us an example of faithfulness to Christ.  
In their holiness we find encouragement and hope.  
In our communion with them we share the unity of your kingdom.

[CW p328]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
for the work of your grace in the life of Saint N  
and that by the same grace you lead us in the way of holiness  
setting before us the vision of your glory.

[ASB p157]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
for the hope to which you call us in your Son,  
that following in the faith of all your saints,  
we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us,  
and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.

[New Patterns G146]

*or*

And now we give you thanks  
because in him you have received us as your sons and daughters,  
joined us in one fellowship with the saints,  
and made us citizens of your kingdom.

[New Patterns G143]

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
We rejoice in the glorious splendour of your majesty  
for you have given us a share with N  
in the inheritance of the saints in light.  
In the darkness of this passing age  
they proclaim the glory of your kingdom.  
Chosen as lights in the world,  
they surround our steps as we journey on  
towards the city of eternal light

where they sing the everlasting song of triumph.  
In communion with angels and archangels  
and all who have served you on earth  
and worship you now in heaven,  
we raise our voices to proclaim your glory,  
for ever praising you and saying:

*Blessings*

God give you grace to follow his saints  
in faith and hope and love;  
and the blessing...

*[CW p329]*

*or*

God give you grace to share the inheritance  
of his saints in glory;  
and the blessing...

*[CW:President's p606]*

*or*

God give you grace to follow his saints  
in faith and truth and gentleness;  
and the blessing ...

*[CW:President's p606]*

*or*

May Christ who makes saints of sinners,  
who has transformed those we remember today  
raise and strengthen you that you may transform the world;  
and the blessing...

*[New Patterns J101]*

*or*

God,  
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
give you the spirit of wisdom and revelation,  
to know the hope to which he has called you.  
**Amen.**

God,  
who has shown you a pattern of holy living and holy dying  
in the lives of the saints,  
bring you to share their glorious inheritance.  
**Amen.**

God,  
who calls you no longer strangers  
but fellow citizens with the saints,

set your hearts and minds on things above,  
where Christ is seated at God's right hand.

**Amen.**

And the blessing...

*[CW:President's p607]*

*or*

May God the Father bring us to the home  
which his Son prepares for all who love him.

**Amen.**

May God the Son give us the will  
to live for him each day in life eternal.

**Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit give us the assurance  
that our citizenship is in heaven  
with the blessed and beloved,  
and the whole company of the redeemed.

**Amen.**

And the blessing...

*[CW:President's p607]*

*or*

May God,  
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace

**Amen.**

May he give you joy and fellowship  
and a share in their praises.

**Amen.**

May he strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness  
and to come to the full radiance of glory.

**Amen.**

And the blessing...

*[CW:President's p601]*

*or*

May God, who has given you in the lives of the saints  
patterns of holy living and victorious dying,  
strengthen you to follow them in the way of holiness.

**Amen.**

May God,  
who kindled the fire of his love in the hearts of the saints,  
pour upon you the riches of his grace.  
**Amen.**

May God, who calls you no longer strangers and aliens  
but fellow-citizens with all the saints,  
bring you to your home in heaven.  
**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

*cf Colossians 1.12; Ephesians 1.17, 18; 2.14 [New Patterns J107]*

*or*

The Lord God almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
the holy and undivided Trinity,  
guard *you*, save *you*,  
and bring *you* to the heavenly city,  
where he lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*[New Patterns J67]*

*Acclamation*

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised:  
**there is no end of his greatness.**  
One generation shall praise your works to another:  
**and shall declare your power.**  
All your works praise you, Lord:  
**and your faithful servants bless you.**  
They make known the glory of your kingdom:  
**and speak of your power.**  
My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:  
**let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

*[New Patterns G24]*

*or*

In the city of God, night shall be no more:  
**the people of God need no light of lamp or sun.**  
For the Lord God will be their light:  
**and they will reign for ever and ever.**

*[New Patterns G55]*

*Short Passages of Scripture*

The righteous shall receive a blessing from the Lord, and a just reward from the God of their salvation.

*Psalms 24.5*



If you come forward to serve the Lord, set your heart right and be steadfast.

*Ecclesiasticus 2.1*

Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

*Matthew 25.35*

Jesus said, "The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give up his life as a ransom for many."

*Mark 10.45*