



**GENEROSITY
WEEK**



A Eucharist to celebrate Gratitude

The Second Sunday Service



 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**

PREPARATION

In preparation for this act of worship, you might wish to pray privately this Prayer of General Thanksgiving.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks
for all your goodness and loving kindness.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies
that our hearts may be thankful,
and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honour and glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE GATHERING

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

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving,
and enter his courts with praise.
Give thanks to the Lord
and bless his name.
For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.

cf. Psalm 100.4-5

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.



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.

Creative God, you have gifted us with your creation,
yet we take your good gifts for granted;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Gracious God, you bless us each day,
yet we forget to be thankful;
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Generous God, you offer new life through your Son,
yet we turn away from you;
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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



Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis may be used.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

In a time of silence,
let us pray that we may draw closer
to the one who has created all things.

Silence is kept.

God of grace, ever creating and restoring,
you breathe life into all things
and embrace us with an everlasting love;
help us to grow in wonder and awe,
to embody a spirit of gratitude,
and to dream generous dreams;
that, in gathering what we have,
we may graciously offer ourselves
to accomplish what you will,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Reading

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labour among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved,[d] to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 5.1-19



Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11.25-30

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

A sermon may be given.



The Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**



PRAYER

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God
for his gifts so generous given to us,
and for the blessings we each abundantly receive.

For the beauty of creation,
for the wonder of new life,
for all things seen and unseen.

We give you thanks, O God.

Psalm 75.1

For the gift of life that you breathe into us,
for minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve.

We give you thanks, O God.

For our families and friends,
for all who we love and who love us,
for your image revealed through those around us.

We give you thanks, O God.

For life of your church,
its vibrancy and diversity,
for the mission in which we all share.

We give you thanks, O God.

For the vocations in which you call us,
for the skills which are nurtured and grow,
for our ministries in all walks of life.

We give you thanks, O God.



For your creativity planted in each person,
for voices to sing our praises to you,
for our capacity to create.

We give you thanks, O God.

For your love which brings us peace even in the darkest of times,
for your strength when we feel weak and vulnerable,
for your hope when all seems lost.

We give you thanks, O God.

For all financial gifts offered to our church,
for blessings offered to be a blessing to others,
for sacrifices made to further mission and enable us to be Christ in the world.

We give you thanks, O God.

For the generosity of this community,
for all who give their time and skills,
for the gifts which are built up and encouraged,
for acts which point beyond themselves and reveal your glory.

We give you thanks, O God.

For you, O God,
for your beauty revealed in all things around us,
for love and life everlasting.

We give you thanks, O God.

For the wisdom of your Spirit,
for gifts given and nurtured,
for sustaining us in prayer.

We give you thanks, O God.

For your Son, Jesus Christ,
for the gift of his perfect sacrifice,
for our hope in him, and the joy of serving his Church.

We give thanks to you, O God.



Intercessions

Intercessions are offered, and may end with;

Source of all life and giver of all that is good,
hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy forever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

May we be made strong, enduring everything with patience,
while joyfully giving thanks to the Father,
who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

cf. Colossians 1.11-12

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

All are invited to exchange a sign of peace.

An offering may be taken. There should be time for people to reflect on gifts given electronically. The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.



Prayer over the Offering

God of all creation,
the source of life and giver of all good things;
through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer our lives;
that we may be used to serve others,
and give you glory.
We make our prayer
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

Giving God,
from whom comes every good and perfect gift,
that we might grow in gratitude and share your blessings;
accept these gifts of bread and wine,
and may the sacrifice of Christ
draw us closer to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

(or)

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Eternal God and Father,
all things are in your making.

In fulfilment of your promise
you have showered us with blessings
and filled us with your gifts.

You form us in your image, the first fruits of your creation,
and by your Holy Spirit embed within us generous hearts
that we may be channels of your self-giving love.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
you have freed us from our sins
and made us a kingdom of priests
to serve you with joy for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.



On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

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

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with *[N and]* all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.



Coming before you with thankful hearts,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

(or)

Coming before you with thankful hearts,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

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.**



(or)

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious;
blessed is the one who trusts in him.

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.
**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion is administered.

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God,
around your table we taste your generosity and your sacrificial love;
help us to be rooted, grafted and built in you,
that in all we are and all we do,
we may show forth abundant thanksgiving
and live lives of immeasurable gratitude;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

The God of grace enrich us in every way,
with hearts overflowing with thanksgiving to God;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.





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 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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