



The Holy Eucharist



Christmas

Welcome to Church

We hope you enjoy our service today.

Visiting members of Christian churches are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Adults and children who are not baptised are invited to the altar to receive a blessing during Communion. If you would like a blessing, please keep your hands lowered or bring your service booklet with you.

If you are new to church, please ask for a 'New to Church' booklet which will explain the service in a little more detail. Please also make yourself known to the officiating Priest at the end of the service, we would love to meet you.



Accessibility

During the service, please feel free to stand, kneel or sit as you feel comfortable. Indications of suggested posture and actions are included, in **[blue]**, throughout this booklet. There is a visual timetable on the back page. Responses for the congregation can be found in **bold**.

If you would like a gluten free wafer, or have any additional needs, please ask one of our welcome team when you arrive.

Please leave this booklet behind at the end of the service.

We are glad you are here.

We want to get to know you.

We want you to know us.

We know God loves us all.

We don't wish you to hide who you are.

We hope you will want to belong.

We welcome the gifts and talents you bring.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SERVICE



1. The Gathering

Page 4

This is space to come together, and to prepare ourselves, to encounter God in worship, the words of scripture and in the receiving the sacrament.



2. The Proclamation of the Word

Page 7

When the bible is read aloud in church (words are also printed in the notice sheet), on a Sunday a sermon is also usually preached.



3. The Intercessions

Page 10

A time of prayer, when we intercede to God, for ourselves and on behalf others, for the needs of our community and the world.



4. The Peace

Page 11

As we prepare to receive communion, we receive God's peace and immediately share it with the gathered community; setting aside any differences we may have before we approach the Lord's table.



5. The Thanksgiving

Page 11

The priest leads the congregation in prayers of thanksgiving, for God's gifts to us and in particular God's gift of Jesus, recalling the last supper, Christ's death on the cross and his resurrection.

• Eucharistic Prayer 4

Page 12



6. The Communion

Page 16

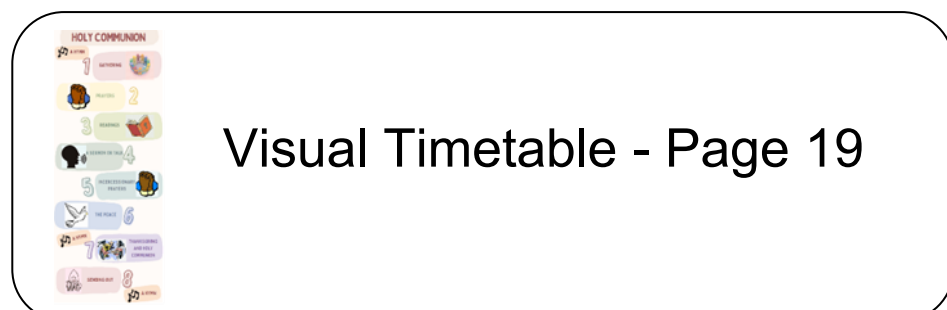
Baptised members of the gathered community are invited to approach the altar rail and share in Holy Communion, receiving consecrated bread and wine. For those with a mobility disability, the priest will take Communion to the seat. Non-baptised members are invited to receive a blessing from the Priest at this time.



7. The Sending Out

Page 17

The conclusion of the service during which the gathered community are sent out to into the world in God's service, to share God's love and peace.





1 The Gathering



OPENING HYMN

[STAND]

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

The light of Christ, who is our peace and salvation, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Words of introduction may be used.

**Heavenly Father, all hearts are open to you.
No secrets are hidden from you.
Purify us with the fire of your Holy Spirit
that we may love and worship you faithfully,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



A CHANCE TO BRING OUR SINS BEFORE GOD

[SIT or KNEEL]

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Turning to Christ, the Light,
who has dispelled the darkness of our world,
let us rejoice in his power to save.

Silence.

Let us bring our sins to our Heavenly Father:

**Heavenly Father,
we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what we
ought to have done.
We are sorry and truly repent.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and lead us in his way
to walk as children of light. Amen.**



Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you and set you free from sin,
strengthen you in goodness
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is said or sung
[STAND]

Either:

**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.**

or:

**Glory to God, glory to
God, glory to the Father.
Glory to God,
glory to God,
glory to the Father.**

**To him be glory for ever.
To him be glory for ever.**

**Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to
God, Son of the Father.
Glory to God,
glory to God,
Son of the Father. etc.**

**Glory to God, glory to
God, glory to the Spirit.
Glory to God,
glory to God,
glory to the Spirit. etc.**



THE COLLECT PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Priest introduces a period of silence with the words:
Let us pray with joy as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

The Collect can be found on the notice sheet and is said by the priest, all respond: **Amen.**



2. The Proclamation of the Word

A copy of the readings can be found on the notice sheet (please ask if you need a large print copy).

[SIT]

The First Reading

At the end the reader says:

Either: This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

or: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

A Psalm or Canticle

The psalm can be found on the weekly notice sheet, it may include a response for the congregation.
Please check the sheet for details.

The Second Reading

At the end the reader says:

Either: This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

or: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING



[STAND]

The Gospel Acclamation

The gospel acclamation and reading can be found on the notice sheet.
The priest or deacon read the acclamation and the congregation responds.

The Gospel

The reader says:

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint....
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



THE SERMON

[SIT]

AN AFFIRMATION OF THE FAITH - The Nicene Creed

[STAND]

**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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.**



3 The Intercessions

[SIT or KNEEL]

After each intercession:

Either: Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

or: Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

or: Jesus, Saviour of the world,
be born in our hearts today.

or other suitable words:

After the final petition:

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





4. The Peace

[STAND]

Either: Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all in whom he delights.

or: Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of peace; of the
increase of his government and of peace there will be
no end.

or: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given:
and his name is called the Prince of Peace.

or other suitable words may be said.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged.



OFFERTORY HYMN



5. The Thanksgiving

The priest takes the bread and the cup and may say:

We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God.

**We take this bread,
we take this wine
to follow Christ's example
and obey his command.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 4

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks, holy Father,
all-powerful and everliving God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Either: Today a new light has dawned upon us.
The song of angels fills the skies
proclaiming news of joy and peace to all on
earth; for Christ your Son before all time is
born into this world.
He restores our dignity, enriches our worth
and brings to us the gift of eternal life.
For as he lived among us, we too may
experience the joy of life with you for ever.

or: 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, that being himself without sin,
he might make us clean from all sin.

or other suitable words may be said.





And so with the hosts of angels
and all the company of heaven
we proclaim the glory of your name
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**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.

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God,
Creator of all things, Giver of life.

You formed us in your own image;
but we have marred that image and fall short
of your glory.

We give you thanks that you sent your Son to share
our life; you gave him up to death that the world
might be saved, and you raised him from the dead
that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit
this bread and wine,
your gifts to us,
that they may be for us
the body and blood
of our Saviour Jesus Christ.



On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,
and when he had given thanks
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying,
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you:
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper he took the cup,
and when he had given thanks
he gave it to them, saying,
Drink from this, all of you,
for 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come in glory.



As he has commanded us, Father,
we remember Jesus Christ, your Son.
Proclaiming his victorious death,
rejoicing in his resurrection
and waiting for him to come in glory
we bring to you this bread, this cup.
Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Restore and revive your people,
renew us and all for whom we pray
with your grace and heavenly blessing,
and at the last receive us with all your saints
into that unending joy promised by your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence.

[SIT or KNEEL]



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Either: As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:



**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.**

or: Let us pray with confidence to the Father:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**



© Hannah Dunnett



6. The Communion

The priest breaks the bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body
for we all share in one bread.**

Either: Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us
your peace.

or: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world: grant us peace.

The priest invites the people 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 priest and people receive communion or a blessing.



During communion hymns may be sung.

After the communion a period of silent reflection is
kept ending with a Collect Prayer.

Notices may be given.



7. The Sending Out

[STAND]

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

**We thank you, Father,
for feeding us with the body and blood of your
Son in this holy sacrament,
through which we are assured
of the hope of eternal life.
We offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice.
Keep us in the fellowship
of his body, the Church,
and send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Either: Christ, who by taking our flesh,
gathered into one all things
earthly and heavenly,
fill you with his joy and peace.

or: Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises
and obey his will.

or: God the Father,
who reigns in highest heaven,
bring you the grace and truth
of the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace
to trust his promises and obey his will. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,
by whose power Mary conceived,
dwell in your hearts in love. **Amen.**

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



FINAL HYMN

Rejoicing in Emmanuel, God-with-us,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.



Blank Page



The Book of Common Prayer of the Church in Wales 2004, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Representative Body of the Church in Wales.