

Order One

¶ *The Gathering*

At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung.

The Greeting

The president greets the people

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

All **and also with you.**

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

1 Alleluia, alleluia,
hearts to heaven and voices raise:
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim,
for the world's salvation bled,
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

2 Christ is risen, Christ the first-fruits
of the holy harvest field,
which will all its full abundance
at his second coming yield;
then the golden ears of harvest
will their heads before him wave,
ripened by his glorious sunshine,
from the furrows of the grave.

3 Christ is risen, we are risen;
shed upon us heav'nly grace,
rain, and dew, and gleams of glory
from the brightness of thy face;
that we, with our hearts in heaven,
here on earth may fruitful be,
and by angel-hands be gathered,
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

4 Alleluia, alleluia,

glory be to God on high;
alleluias to the Saviour,
who has gained the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
alleluia, alleluia,
to the Triune Majesty.

Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-1885

Prayer of Preparation

This prayer may be said

All **Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.**

Amen. Prayers of Penitence

The following Summary of the Law or other words may be used

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:
The first commandment is this:
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'
The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

A minister uses these or other suitable words

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

We kneel to pray using one of the following prayers.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,**

through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

(or)

All **Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Or, with suitable penitential sentences, the Kyrie eleison may be used

All Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The president says

All 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.

Gloria in Excelsis

The Gloria in excelsis may be used

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

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The Collect is said, and all respond

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
 you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

¶ *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

All

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

Genesis 22.1-18

Some time later God put Abraham to the test. ‘Abraham!’ he called to him, and Abraham replied, ‘Here I am!’ God said, ‘Take your son, your one and only son Isaac whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a sacrifice on one of the heights which I shall show you.’ Early in the morning Abraham saddled his donkey, and took with him two of his men and his son Isaac; and having split firewood for the sacrifice, he set out for the place of which God had spoken. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the shrine in the distance. He said to his men, ‘Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go on ahead. We shall worship there, and then come back to you.’

Abraham took the wood for the sacrifice and put it on his son Isaac’s shoulder, while he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, Isaac spoke. ‘Father!’ he said. Abraham answered, ‘What is it, my son?’ Isaac said, ‘Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the sheep for a sacrifice?’ Abraham answered, ‘God will provide himself with a sheep for a sacrifice, my son.’ The two of them went on together until they came to the place of which God had spoken. There Abraham built an altar and arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. He reached out for the knife to slay his son, but the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’ He answered, ‘Here I am!’ The angel said, ‘Do not raise your hand against the boy; do not touch him. Now I know that you are a godfearing man. You have not withheld from me your son, your only son.’ Abraham looked round, and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went, seized the ram, and offered it as a sacrifice instead of his son. Abraham named that shrine ‘The Lord will provide’; and to this day the saying is: ‘In the mountain of the Lord it was provided.’

Then the angel of the Lord called from heaven a second time to

Abraham and said, ‘This is the word of the Lord: By my own self I swear that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I shall bless you abundantly and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky or the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the cities of their enemies. All nations on earth will wish to be blessed as your descendants are blessed, because you have been obedient to me.’

Acts 8.26-40

Then the angel of the Lord said to Philip, ‘Start out and go south to the road that leads down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ (This is the desert road.) He set out and was on his way when he caught sight of an Ethiopian. This man was a eunuch, a high official of the Kandake, or queen, of Ethiopia, in charge of all her treasure; he had been to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage and was now returning home, sitting in his carriage and reading aloud from the prophet Isaiah. The Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go and meet the carriage.’ When Philip ran up he heard him reading from the prophet Isaiah and asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ He said, ‘How can I without someone to guide me?’ and invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

The passage he was reading was this: ‘He was led like a sheep to the slaughter; like a lamb that is dumb before the shearer, he does not open his mouth. He has been humiliated and has no redress. Who will be able to speak of his posterity? For he is cut off from the world of the living.’

‘Please tell me’, said the eunuch to Philip, ‘who it is that the prophet is speaking about here: himself or someone else?’ Then Philip began and, starting from this passage, he told him the good news of Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water. ‘Look,’ said the eunuch, ‘here is water: what is to prevent my being baptized?’ and he ordered the carriage to stop. Then they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. When they came up from the water the Spirit snatched Philip away; the eunuch

did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip appeared at Azotus, and toured the country, preaching in all the towns till he reached Caesarea.

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

1 Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

2 In the grave they laid him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that he never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

John Macleod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Gospel

Reading

An acclamation heralds the Gospel reading.

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.

All

Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 15.1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Any branch of mine that is barren he cuts away; and any fruiting branch he prunes clean, to make it more fruitful still. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Dwell in me, as I in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself, but only if it remains united with the vine; no more can you bear fruit, unless you remain united with me.

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

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers usually include these concerns and may follow this sequence:

- ¶ *The Church of Christ*
- ¶¶ *Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority*
- ¶ *The local community*
- ¶ *Those who suffer*
- ¶ *The communion of saints*

These responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

And at the end

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

¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence, and then says

All 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.

1 Lord, enthroned in heav'ently splendour
first-begotten from the dead,
thou alone, our strong defender,
liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Jesu, true and living bread.

2 Here our humblest homage pay we,
here in loving rev'rence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, alleluia,
thou art here, we ask not how.

3 Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flow'er of Jesse's Stem.
Alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.

4 Paschal Lamb, thine off'ring, finished
once for all when thou wast slain,
in its fullness undiminished
shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia,
cleansing souls from ev'ry stain.

5 Life-imparting heav'nly manna,
stricken rock with streaming side,
heav'n and earth with loud hosanna
worship thee, the Lamb who died.
Alleluia, alleluia,
ris'n, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne, 1840-1925

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.
The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it. One or more
of the prayers at the preparation of the table may be said.*

All Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.
**All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you**

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Prayer B

All The Lord be with you
(or) **and also with you.**
All The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**
All Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**
All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

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.

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

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

One of these four acclamations is used

All [Great is the mystery of
faith:]
**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come
again.**

(or)

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

(or)

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [*N and*] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

All

[Christ is the bread of life:]
**When we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord
Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

(or)

All

[Jesus Christ is Lord:]
**Lord, by your cross and
resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the
world.**

The Lord's Prayer

We kneel for the Lord's prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation**

**but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

All Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.
We were buried in your tomb.
All **Now we share in your resurrection.**
Live in us, that we may live in you.

(or)

All 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

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace**

Giving of Communion

The president gives the invitation to communion

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)

All Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

One of these prayers may be said before the distribution

All **We do not presume
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.
But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ
and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body
and our souls washed
through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
Amen.**

(or)

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

The president and people receive communion.

Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies

Amen.

During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.

*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.*

All may say one of these prayers

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

(or)

All **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Banns of marriage and other notices may be published..

The Dismissal

A hymn may be sung.

1. Love is his word, Love is his way,
Feasting with all, fasting alone,
Living and dying, rising again
Love only love is his way.
Chorus

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord.
Better than splendour and wealth.*

2. Love is his way, love is his mark,
Sharing his last Passover feast.
Christ at the table, host to the twelve Love,
only love, is his mark.

3. Love is his mark, love is his sign,
Bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
This is my body, this is my blood
Love, only love is his sign.

4. Love is his sign, love is his news,
Do this he said Lest you forget
All my deep sorrow, all my dear blood,
Love, only love, is his news.

5. Love is his news, Love is his name,
We are his own, chosen and called,
Family, brethren, cousins and kin.
Love, only love is his name.

6. Love is his name, love is his law,
Hear his command, all who are his,
Love one another, I have loved you
Love, only love, is his law.

7. Love is his law, Love is his word,
Love of the Lord, Father, and Word,
Love of the Spirit, God ever one,
Love, only love, is his word.

Luke Connaughton (1917-1979)
© McCrimmon Publishing Company Limited

The president may use this or another suitable blessing

All God the Father,
by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,
open to you the gate of everlasting life.
Amen.

All God the Son,
who in bursting the grave has won a glorious victory,
give you joy as you share the Easter faith.
Amen.

All God the Holy Spirit,
whom the risen Lord breathed into his disciples,
empower you and fill you with IChrist's peace.
Amen.

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

A minister says

All **Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia**
 Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

The ministers and people depart.

If the organ is playing, please remain quiet for a few moments as the organist draws the service to a close with a final act of praise.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000.