



St Peter's Church Harborne

*An Order for the
Celebration of
Holy Communion
in Festival Times*

Introduction

This Service of Holy Communion (The Eucharist) lies at the heart of mainstream Anglican worship. It takes its origin from the Last Supper, when Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, took bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it back.

The following Order of Service is taken from “Common Worship”, the authorized Service Book of the Church of England. Some information, in italics, reflects local custom here at St Peter’s.

Parents with babies and small children are invited to join “Junior Church”, held in the church hall during the first half of the 10.00 am Parish Communion Service.

At Communion, confirmed members of the Church of England, along with full members of other denominations, are invited to receive the Sacrament in the usual way. Others are invited to come to the Communion Rail for a Blessing (please keep your head and your hands down).

If you would like any further information about the activities at St. Peter’s, please do not hesitate to talk to the clergy or sidespersons.

Now, before the Service starts, please engage in a few moments of private prayer.

The Gathering

At the entry of the ministers a hymn is sung.

The President says

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

All Amen.

The Greeting

The President greets the people

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Prayer of Preparation

**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

A Minister may say

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.

The Minister uses a seasonal invitation to confession

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.

Absolution

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.

All Amen.

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.**

The Collect

*The President introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'.
Please remain standing. The Collect is said and all respond.*

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

*The readings are reproduced in full on the weekly sheet.
A reading from Scripture precedes the Gospel reading.*

At the end of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A hymn or anthem may be used between the reading and the Gospel.

Gospel Reading

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.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

**All 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, and 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.**

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.

(or)

Lord, hear us.
All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament

The President introduces the peace with a seasonal sentence and then says

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

A Minister says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

The offertory hymn is sung. During the singing of the hymn, Junior Church members join the congregation.

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.

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

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.

All 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.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The president takes the bread and wine

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Lift up your hearts
All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ,
your living Word, through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

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The president adds a seasonal preface, when appropriate

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

**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.

Jesus Christ is Lord.

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection
You have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

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 St. Peter, 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

**All 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.**

Breaking of the Bread

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

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

The Agnus Dei is sung 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.**

The president says one of these invitations to communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
Who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to received you but
only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The president and people receive Communion.
Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies*
All Amen.

During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.

Silence is kept.

The President says the post communion prayer, then all say

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.

The Dismissal

Notices.

A hymn is sung.

The President uses a seasonal blessing

A minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The ministers and people depart.

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