



LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL

HOLY COMMUNION

Sundays at 08:00

Common Worship Order Two
following the Order of the Book of Common Prayer
(Traditional Language)

Welcome

Spiritual Communion

We know that for many people seeing and knowing that the celebration of the Eucharist continues is a huge source of assurance and encouragement, but it also throws into focus the pain of separation that is also felt as you see the priest take the bread and wine. People quite properly have asked what they can do and what is permissible in these circumstances.

The Church of England is encouraging the practice of Spiritual Communion. Essentially it provides for you a way of spiritually taking your communion. This principle is incorporated into this service today at the point of the distribution of the Holy Communion.

The reasoning behind this is found in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. It is a way of taking our communion when, as at this time, we are prevented from doing so.

We do hope that you can feel as totally included in this celebration of the Eucharist as is possible at this time.

Order of Service

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;
and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul,
and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first commandment.
And the second is like, namely this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
There is none other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE SOVEREIGN

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite:
have mercy upon the whole Church;
and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant
Elizabeth, our Queen and Governor,
that she (knowing whose minister she is)
may above all things seek thy honour and glory:
and that we and all her subjects
(duly considering whose authority she hath)
may faithfully serve, honour and humbly obey her,
in thee, and for thee, according to thy blessed word and ordinance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth,
ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR THE SUNDAY

EPISTLE

GOSPEL READING

The president introduces the Gospel and the people respond

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

The Gospel reading concludes with the response

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE CREED

**I believe in one God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again
according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.**

**And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead:
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.**

And I believe one catholic and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

**And I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

HOMILY

OFFERTORY

The following sentence is read:

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 5.16

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Bread and wine are set upon the altar.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Brief biddings may be given by way of introduction.

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here in earth.

Almighty and ever-living God,
who by thy holy apostle hast taught us
to make prayers and supplications,
and to give thanks, for all men:
we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers,
which we offer unto thy divine majesty;
beseeching thee to inspire continually
the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord:
and grant, that all they that do confess thy holy name
may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.
We beseech thee also
to save and defend all Christian kings, princes and governors;
and specially thy servant Elizabeth our Queen,
that under her we may be godly and quietly governed:
and grant unto her whole Council,
and to all that are put in authority under her,
that they may truly and impartially minister justice,
to the punishment of wickedness and vice,
and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.
Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, priests and deacons,
that they may both by their life and doctrine
set forth thy true and lively word,
and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments:
and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace;
and specially to this congregation here present;
that, with meek heart and due reverence,
they may hear and receive thy holy word;
truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness
all the days of their life.
And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord,
to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life
are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.
And we also bless thy holy name
for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear;
beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples,
that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.
Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake,
our only mediator and advocate. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you 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,
meekly kneeling upon your knees.

CONFESSION

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed,
by thought, word and deed, against thy divine majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us;
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honour and glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins
to all them that with hearty repentance
and true faith turn unto him:
have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins;
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness;
and bring you to everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear what comfortable words
our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him:
Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you.

Matthew 11.28

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son,
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.

John 3.16

Hear also what Saint Paul saith:

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1.15

Hear also what Saint John saith:

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father,
Jesus Christ the righteous;
and he is the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 2.1,2

PREFACE

The priest and the people praise God for his goodness.

The Lord be with you
and with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty,
that we should at all times, and in all places,
give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father,
almighty, everlasting God.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we laud and magnify thy glorious name,
evermore praising thee, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.
But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy:
grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of thy 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.**

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The priest, standing at the table, says the Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered)
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice,
oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world;
and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue,
a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again:

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee;
and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine,
according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;
and, when he had given thanks, he brake 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.

Likewise after supper he took the cup;
and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying,
Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the new testament,
which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins:
do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

The priest receives communion.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The priest says,

I invite you to open your hands as a sign of your openness to receiving God's grace as we pray together:

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The priest says

As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us,
we are bold to say:

**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.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The priest says the Prayer of Oblation

O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy humble servants
entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;
most humbly beseeching thee to grant,
that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins,
and all other benefits of his passion.
And here we offer and present unto thee,
O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies,
to be a reasonable, holy and lively sacrifice unto thee;

humbly beseeching thee,
that all we, who are partakers of this holy communion,
may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.
And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer unto thee any sacrifice,
yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service;
not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost,
all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty, world without end.
Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, goodwill towards men.

**We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The priest says

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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