



Common Worship
Holy Communion
Christmas Season



Structure

The people and the priest

- ✠ greet each other in the Lord's name
- ✠ confess their sins and are assured of God's forgiveness
- ✠ keep silence and pray a Collect
- ✠ proclaim and respond to the word of God
- ✠ pray for the Church and the world
- ✠ exchange the Peace
- ✠ prepare the table
- ✠ pray the Eucharistic Prayer
- ✠ break the bread
- ✠ receive communion
- ✠ depart with God's blessing

¶ *The Gathering*

Words of welcome

Hymn

The Greeting

The president greets the people

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

All

Prayers of Penitence

*(On Christmas Day the fifth candle in the Advent
Wreath is lit for the first time.)*

The deacon says

God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth: forgive
our failure to receive him.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our Saviour,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president says

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

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

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

Let us pray in the peace of this Christmas celebration that our joy in the birth of Christ will last for ever.

Silence is kept

The Collect is said, and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

At the end of the Scripture readings

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the deacon 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

The deacon says

Let us stand to declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit

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,
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

These responses may be used

All Holy God
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 introduces the Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and his name shall be called Prince of Peace.

cf Isaiah 9:6

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

The deacon says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All exchange a sign of peace.

Hymn

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.

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

The Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

All glory and honour be yours
always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God.
We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,
was born of the Virgin Mary
by the power of your Spirit,
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of your glory
in the face of Jesus Christ.

In him we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God
we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim
the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

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.**

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.

All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

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 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.

All **Amen.**

Silence is kept

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has
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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

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

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

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Christ is the true bread which has come down
from heaven.

All **Lord, give us this bread always.
Amen.**

The president and people receive communion. Please come forward, as invited, to receive communion. If you are a visitor and have been baptised you are very welcome to take communion with us here. If you do not receive communion then we invite you to come for a blessing.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.

Hymn

The Dismissal

The president prays

The Lord bless and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

The deacon says

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All **Glory, thanks and praise to God.**

The ministers and people depart.

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