

Benefice of Long Buckby with Watford, and West Haddon with Winwick

Holy Communion

Common Worship Order One

Version: June 2021

WELCOME

Welcome to this service of Holy Communion. Ever since Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to his disciples, Christians have met together to break bread and share wine together to celebrate his victory over death and to look forward to his coming again. As we meet together to worship, we believe that God is present through his Spirit and that we can have a profound encounter with him. Holy Communion is a particular way of worshipping God:

‘God meets us where we are, washing us, feeding us, quenching our thirst for grace. We not only believe it, we sense it, see it, taste it, feel it, smell it, and swallow it...what my mind doubts, my mouth tastes as the Lord’s goodness. When my faith falters, my fingers can touch the truth.’

(Leonard Vander Zee, Christ, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper: Recovering the Sacraments for Evangelical Worship).

FOR THOSE WORSHIPPING AT HOME ON-LINE VIA ZOOM:

You are welcome to have some bread and wine in front of you as we worship. On-line worship has raised some (more!) profound questions about Holy Communion and God’s action through His Spirit. We know that God is everywhere; and that Jesus healed remotely (John 4 vv 49-53). Be reassured: wherever you are “The Lord is here; His Spirit is with us”.

The guidance from the Church of England says this:

We recognise a real desire of many for some physical engagement during the online celebration of Holy Communion. In some cases, participants in online services have consumed bread and wine in their own homes during the service. Whilst we recognize that this practice may have spiritual value for some, participants should not be encouraged to believe that any bread and wine brought before screens during online Holy Communion has been ‘remotely consecrated’. However, we commend the questions raised by this practice for further theological reflection.

With love, Revd Graham Collingridge.

THE GREETING

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

CONFESSION

Suitable words may be used to introduce the confession.

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The service leader 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.
Amen.

THE COLLECT

The service leader may pray the Collect (prayer for the day)

BIBLE READINGS

At the end of the reading the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

PRAYERS

These or other responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

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

THE PEACE

The Peace may be introduced with a suitable sentence

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER TWO

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 thanks and praise.

Lord of all life,
you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You made us all,
each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels
and sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth
are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory,
through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Post Communion prayer may be said.

All may say

**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.**

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

This or another suitable blessing may be used

May the God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
through the power of the Holy Spirit;

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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