

**St. Stephen's Church  
St. Albans**



**Parish Communion for Lent  
Common Worship Order One**

# ¶ The Gathering

*Stand*

## HYMN

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

**Amen.**

## THE GREETING

*The president greets the people*

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

**and also with you.**

*Further words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**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.**

## SUMMARY OF THE LAW

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.

**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE**

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.  
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of  
compassion,  
and acknowledge our transgressions in  
penitence and faith.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love,  
and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed,  
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 lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.  
Amen.**

## **KYRIE ELEISON**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Christe eleison. Christe eleison.  
Christe eleison**

**Or**

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

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**

## **COLLECT**

*The Collect is said, and all respond*

**Amen**

# ¶ Liturgy of the Word

*Sit*

## **READINGS**

*Either one or two readings precede the Gospel reading.  
At the end of each the reader may say*

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

*Stand*

## **HYMN**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
The Lord is a great God,  
O that today you would listen to his voice.  
Harden not your hearts.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

## **GOSPEL READING**

*When the gospel is announced the reader says:*  
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according  
to.....  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

## **SERMON**

*Stand*

## **THE CREED**

**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.**

*Sit or Kneel*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*Or*

Lord, hear us.  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

*And at the end*

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

## **¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

*Stand*

### **THE PEACE**

Since we are justified by faith,  
We have peace with God through  
our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who has given us access to his grace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

### HYMN

*The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.  
The table is prepared and bread and wine placed upon it.*

**God of life, saviour of the poor,  
receive with this money  
gratitude for your goodness,  
penitence for our pride  
and dedication to your service  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

*Sit or Kneel*

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER [A]

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

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

It is indeed right and good  
to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.  
For in these forty days  
you lead us into the desert of repentance  
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline  
we may grow in grace  
and learn to be your people once again.  
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service

you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word  
you open our eyes to your presence in the world  
and free our hands to welcome others  
into the radiant splendour of your love.  
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast  
with joyful hearts and minds  
we bless you for your mercy  
and join with saints and angels  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his  
command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our  
Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and  
heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and 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**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread:*

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

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy 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.**

**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.**

*Those who are not Confirmed are invited to come forward bow  
their heads and receive a blessing.*

## **COMMUNION HYMNS**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The post communion or another appropriate prayer is said.*

**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.**

*Stand*  
**HYMN**

*Sit*  
**NOTICES**

## **¶ The Dismissal**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,  
and follow him;  
and the blessing ...

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

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