



**HOLY COMMUNION (Epiphany)  
COMMON WORSHIP**



*Welcome to this historic church of St Peter's where God has been worshipped for over 900 years. If you are visiting us or are new to the church we extend a warm welcome and pray that this communion service may draw you closer to the love of God our Heavenly Father as we worship Him together.*

*Please join us for refreshments after the service in the Church Centre across the road.*

**THE GATHERING**

**Leader** We meet in the presence of God  
**All** who knows our needs, hears our cries,  
feels our pain, and heals our wounds. Amen

Welcome

Hymn

Notices (including a prayer for children who leave for Sunday School)

Prayer of Preparation (Please sit or kneel)

**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.

## Prayer of Penitence

Leader The grace of God has dawned upon the world  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.  
Let us confess our sins. *cf Titus 22.1-14*

Leader Christ came in humility to share our lives:  
Forgive our pride.  
Lord have mercy.

**All Lord have mercy**

Leader Christ came with good news for all people:  
Forgive our silence.  
Christ have mercy.

**All Christ have mercy.**

Leader Christ came in love to a world of suffering  
Forgive our self-centredness.  
Lord have mercy.

**All Lord have mercy**

## Absolution (*The priest proclaims God's forgiveness*)

Leader Almighty God,  
who in Jesus Christ has given us  
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,  
forgive us our sins,  
open our eyes to God's truth,  
strengthen us to do God's will  
and give us the joy of his kingdom,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## Gloria in Excelsis (*may be said or sung*)

**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**

Collect     *(Prayer for the day)*

*Leader*     As Christ is revealed to us, let us pray  
                  that our hearts are open and receptive to receive him

## *THE LITURGY OF THE WORD*

*At the end of the first reading:*

*Reader*     This is the word of the Lord

**All**           **Thanks be to God**

## Hymn

*Remain standing for the gospel.*

*Reader*     Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in the flesh, proclaimed among the  
nations and believed throughout the world. Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
According to *N*.

**All**           **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end of the gospel:*

*Reader*     This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All**           **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

Creed      *(Please stand)*

**All**      **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 of Intercession *(Please sit or kneel)*

*This response may be used*

Leader    Lord, come to your people.

**All**      **In your mercy set us free.**

*And at the end*

Leader    Merciful Father,

**All**      **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

## *THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT*

Peace      *(Please stand)*

Leader    Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and  
of peace there shall be no end.

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

*You may exchange a sign of peace with your neighbours*

Hymn      *During the hymn the table is prepared*

Offering    *The offering goes towards the ministry of St Mark's. The plate is  
available at the back of church before and after the service*

Leader Gracious God, accept the offering of your Church, the hearts of your people joined in praise and thanksgiving, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

Leader It is indeed right; it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
And now we give you thanks for,  
by the leading of a star,  
you have revealed your only Son to the world,  
that in following him we are led from darkness  
into his marvellous light.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
forever praising you and *saying*:  
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.**

Leader 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**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, forever and ever.

**All**

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

Leader As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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

Leader 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.**

## Agnus Dei

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

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

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

## Prayer of Humble Access *may be said*

All **We do not presume**

**to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy**

**so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord**

**whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,**

**so to eat the flesh of your 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.**

### Invitation to Communion

Leader 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 receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

### Receiving Communion *(The children return from Sunday School.)*

*You are welcome to come forward when indicated to receive Communion, if that is your usual habit, or for a prayer of Blessing. If coming forward for a Blessing please keep your hands behind your back.*

### Prayer after Communion

Leader Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**All Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## *THE DISMISSAL*

### Hymn

### Blessing

Leader Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always

**All Amen.**

Leader Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ. Amen.**