

A typical 8.30am Holy Communion Sunday Service at St Mark's

The Gathering

Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.

All Lift up our hearts to worship you
in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hymn: Hail, Thou once despised Jesus,
Hail, thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us,
Thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, thou agonising Saviour,
Bearer of our sin and shame;
By thy merits we find favour,
Life is given through thy name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
All our sins on thee were laid;
With almighty love anointed,
Thou hast full atonement made.
All thy people are forgiven
Through the virtue of thy blood:
Opened is the gate of heaven,
Man is reconciled to God.

Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,
There forever to abide;
All the heavenly hosts adore thee,
Seated at thy Father's side:
There for sinners thou art pleading,
There thou dost our place prepare,
Ever for us interceding,
Till in glory we appear.

Worship, honour, power, and blessing
Thou art worthy to receive:
Loudest praises, without ceasing,
Right it is for us to give:
Come, O mighty Holy Spirit,
As our hearts and hands we raise,
Help us sing our Saviour's merits,
Help us sing Immanuel's praise.

The Greeting

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Alleluia. Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Prayer of Preparation

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.

Prayers of Penitence

Invitation to confession

Do not be anxious about your life,
what you shall eat or what you shall drink.
Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness.

Matthew 6.31,33

Let us confess our sins
and our failure to make God's will our priority:

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

All Lord, have mercy.

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

All Christ, have mercy.

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

The Collect

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is
gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

First Reading

Ephesians 3:1-13

¹For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles –

²Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. ¹³I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

All

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

Hymn: All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him, crown him, crown him:
Crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,
Who from his altar call;
Extol the Stem-of-Jesse's Rod
And crown him, crown him, crown him:
Crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,
Ye ransomed of the fall;
Hail him who saves you by his grace
And crown him, crown him, crown him:
Crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue
Before him prostrate fall,
And praise in universal song
The crownèd, crownèd, crownèd:
Crownèd Lord of all.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love.

All Alleluia.

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 24.44-53

⁴⁴ Jesus said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

The president says

Let us declare our faith in God.

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.

cf Ephesians 3

Prayers of Intercession

And at the end

All Jesus, Lord of life,
in your mercy, hear us,
accept our prayers,
and be with us always.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Jesus said:

' Love one another.

As I have loved you,
so you are to love one another.'

cf John 15.12

All

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Hymn: Ascended Christ, who gained

The glory that we sing,
Anointed and ordained
Our prophet, priest and king:
By many tongues the church displays
Your power and praise in all her songs.

No titles, thrones, or powers
Can ever rival yours;
No passing mood of ours
Can turn aside your laws:
You reign above each other name
Of worth or fame, the Lord of love.

You call us to belong
Within one body here;
In weakness we are strong
And all your gifts we share:
In you alone we are complete
And at your feet with joy bow down.

All strength is in your hand,
All power to you is given;
All wisdom to command
In earth and hell and heaven:
Beyond all words creation sings
The King of kings and Lord of lords

The Offertory Prayer

The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

All By his mercy we present our whole lives to God as a living sacrifice.

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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest
who has entered once for all
into the heavenly sanctuary,
evermore to pour upon your Church
the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.

He is the one who has gone before us,
who calls us to be united in prayer
as were his disciples in the upper room
while they awaited his promised gift,
the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing
as angels and archangels sing the endless 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.

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom
in the words our Saviour taught us:

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

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

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.

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The president and people share communion

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Keep us, Father, in this community of faith,
the Church of your Son Jesus Christ,
and help us to confess him as Messiah and Lord
in all we say and do.
We ask this in his name.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Hymn : Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
Liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Jesus, true and living bread.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee,
As of old in Bethlehem
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We in worship join with them.

Paschal lamb, thine offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting, heavenly manna,
Stricken rock with streaming side;
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the lamb who died.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Risen, ascended, glorified!

Blessing

God,
who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ
has given us the victory,
give you joy and peace in your faith;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead
at work within you,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia.

All In the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

The ministers and people depart.

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