Second order of Holy Communion

Especially when all ages are present

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Welcome, greetings and introductions.

Music may be rehearsed, news shared and any necessary explanations or instructions given.

The responses in this service are either well known or are based on repeating a line. The congregation need to know when a line is to be repeated. This can

be indicated either by the worship leader or by having a designated ‘cantor’ who speaks only the lines to be repeated.

**The call**

The time is fulfilled,

and the kingdom of God has come near;

repent, and believe in the good news! Mark 1:15

**Hymn or song**

**Prayer of praise**

Let us pray. Loving God,

you create the world and all the people.

You make bread and wine and all good things.

You are holy and we praise you.

Jesus Christ, child of God

and friend of us all, you are with us today as we break the bread and share the wine.

You are Lord and we love you.

Holy Spirit, breath of God,

moving in all creation, you bring us close to God

and make us holy and strong. You are here and we adore you.

A short Trinitarian verse of praise may be sung, preferably from memory (eg *Rejoice and Sing* 21-25).

or

Loving God,

in the company of all your people we come to you,

and your presence is joy to us.

We come here

on this first day of the week

to meet with you and with each other and to listen for your word for each one.

We are ready to break bread and to drink wine, to remember again the stories of our faith,

and to be changed by being here with you.

As we worship

in the company of angels, surrounded by the saints, and embraced by your love,

let us give ourselves openly and freely, as you give yourself to us,

in tenderness and love.

Loving God, Lord Jesus, Holy Spirit, we worship you,

the one holy and eternal God.

Silence

**Prayer of Confession and words of forgiveness**

God of justice and forgiveness, we confess that we live in a world

in which some are hungry even for bread, many people are sad or hurt,

and there is much that is unfair and unjust.

We confess that in our own lives we do not always do what is right or turn away from what is wrong. We ask your forgiveness,

we claim your love and mercy,

and we ask for courage to make a new beginning. In the name of Jesus Christ.

*All* **Amen.**

Jesus said, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ Mark 2:9 He also said, ‘Whoever does the will of God

is my brother and sister and mother.’ Mark 3:35

Eternal God,

we believe the good news of your mercy and love,

and rejoice that we are forgiven and free. Receive us as your children,

as brothers and sisters of Jesus, part of your new community of love, and give us strength to do your will, today and always.

*All* **Amen.**

A reading from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) Psalm

**Prayer for grace**

**Hymn or song**

**Readings**

The psalm is ‘lined out’, the leader saying one line of text and the people repeating it. Psalm 117 is given as an example.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *All* | Praise the Lord, all you nations!  **Praise the Lord, all you nations!** | Psalm 117 |
| *All* | Extol him, all you peoples!  **Extol him, all you peoples!** |  |
| *All* | For great is his steadfast love toward us,  **For great is his steadfast love toward us,** |  |
| *All* | and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.  **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.** |  |
| *All* | Praise the Lord!  **Praise the Lord!** |  |
|  | A reading from a Gospel (and/or other New Testament book) |  |
| *All* | Let anyone with ears to hear listen!  **Let anyone with ears to hear listen!** | Mark 4:9 |

(in ways appropriate for the day)

**Presentation of the Good News**

**Hymn or song**

**The invitation**

Jesus was often a guest.

He shared many meals with his friends,

and they long remembered his words at the table. Though some disapproved of the company he kept,

Jesus ate and drank with all kinds of people and showed everyone the love of God.

Wherever people met together

Jesus was glad to be welcomed and to be fed. Today, we are the guests of Jesus.

He welcomes us,

whoever we are and whatever we bring, and he will feed us at his table.

Old or young, rich or poor, joyful or in sorrow,

Jesus invites us

to share bread and wine with him,

to remember the story of his life and death, and to celebrate his presence with us today. On the night before he died,

Jesus shared a meal with 12 of his disciples in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.

The Gospel writer tells us what happened that night.

**The story of the Lord’s Supper**

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, ‘Take; this is my body.’ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, ‘This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly,

I tell you, I will never again drink the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.’ Mark 14:22-25

We are the friends and disciples of Jesus today. He invites us to break bread together,

to remember him

and to pray that God’s Kingdom will come.

**The prayer of Jesus**

Said together, each person using the version or language most familiar to them. The prayer may be said after the prayers of intercession instead.

**Hymn or song**

**Offering**

During or after the hymn or song the bread and wine and the offerings of the

people may be brought to the table.

We bring this bread and this wine to the table of Jesus.

With them we bring ourselves,

all that we are and all that we own. May the ordinary become holy,

and heaven be opened to the people of earth.

May God be blessed forever!

# *All* May God be blessed forever!

God is with us!

*All* **God is with us!**

We give thanks and praise to God!

*All* **We give thanks and praise to God!**

**Offering prayer**

**The Thanksgiving**

Loving God,

the world you made is beautiful and full of wonder.

You made us, with all your creatures, and you love all that you have made. You gave us the words of your prophets,

the stories of your people through the generations, and the gathered wisdom of many years.

You gave us Jesus, your Son, to be born and to grow up

in difficult times when there was little peace.

He embraced people with your love and told stories to change us all.

He healed those in pain

and brought to life those who had lost hope. He made friends with anyone who would listen and loved even his enemies.

For these things, he suffered.

For these things, he died.

And he was raised from death and lives with you forever. You give us your Holy Spirit,

to teach and to strengthen us, to remind us of Jesus Christ, and to make us one in him.

For all these gifts we thank you, and we join with all your people on earth and in heaven,

in joyful praise:

Hosanna!

*All* **Hosanna!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

# *All* Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

*All* **Hosanna in the highest heaven!** Mark 11:9b,10b

We praise you that we are here today, around the table of Jesus.

We have heard the good news of your love; the cross is the sign of your arms

stretched out in love for us

and the empty tomb declares your love stronger than death.

Christ has died!

# *All* Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

# *All* Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

# *All* Christ will come again!

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine, and upon your people, that Christ may be with us,

and we may be made ready to live for you and to do what you ask of us,

today, and every day to come.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,

in the power of the Holy Spirit, in the love of the Creator,

one God,

to whom be glory and praise forever,

*All* **Amen.**

Eat this bread. It is the bread of life. Drink this wine. It is the cup of blessing.

**The breaking of the bread and the blessing of the cup**

**The Sharing**

The Elders (or those chosen) may take the bread and wine to the congregation, or the people may pass the bread and cup from hand to hand as they are gathered around the table. There may be singing during the sharing of the bread and wine.

Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words.

*All* **Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words.**

**The Peace**

Jesus said to them, ‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’ Then he took a little child and he said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’ Mark 9:35a-37

Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

Let us pray. Loving God,

you have fed us generously at this table, as we have remembered Jesus

and rejoiced that he is with us today. We are ready now to follow him,

and to be your people in the world. May your Holy Spirit show us the way, make us holy and fill us with love.

Lord, in your mercy,

# *All* hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church,

for the great Church throughout the world, and for our own church community gathered today for worship and prayer.

May we remember Jesus every day, grow in understanding of him,

and learn to love you and our neighbours.

**Prayers**

Fill us with your Spirit,

and make us people of peace,

of faithful prayer and loving action. Lord, in your mercy,

# *All* hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole world; for the people, the animals, the earth, the sea and the air.

May all that you have made

be sustained in peace and harmony, and may all your creatures

share in the goodness of creation. Bring healing to all who are suffering, and may all your people share in hope especially ...

Lord, in your mercy,

# *All* hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves,

for our families and our friends, for all those we love

and for those we find it hard to love.

May young and old respect one another, and the generations honour one another. May nothing divide us or come between us, but let your love bind us in affection.

Bless us with your peace,

that together we may praise you forever.

Lord, in your mercy,

# *All* hear our prayer.

Glory to God

*All* **Glory to God**

Glory in the highest

# *All* Glory in the highest

Today and always

*All* **Today and always Amen.**

**Hymn or song**

**Sending out and blessing**

Jesus said,

‘Go home to your friends,

and tell them how much the Lord has done for you,

and what mercy he has shown you.’ Mark 5:19

The blessing of God be upon you, the One who loves you,

the Christ who calls you,

the Spirit who makes you holy, today and always.

*All* **Amen.**