Third order of Holy Communion

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Scripture sentences

Give thanks to the God of heaven,
All **for God's steadfast love endures for ever.** Psalm 136:26

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the main corner-stone.
All **This is the work of the Lord;**
it is wonderful in our eyes. Psalm 118:22-3

Prayer, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon

Eternal God, creator of all things, giver of life,
we praise and worship you.
We thank you that you have
always loved the world you have made;
and that, however far we stray from you,
your love is always there to welcome us home.

We do not deserve your love,
but we dare to believe the good news of your mercy
declared by our Lord Jesus Christ,
whose offering of his life for us and for all people
we set forth in this bread and wine.

Be present at this your table
as with penitent and forgiving hearts
we break bread and drink wine in your name.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit,
that our worship may truly express our love
for you and for one another.
Make us glad and give us joy and peace.

Let us confess our sins:

All **God our Father,**
we have sinned against you
and against one another,
in thought, word and deed;
we have not loved you with all our heart;
we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
But you have kept faith with us.
Have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and restore us to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
To all who turn to him he says:
'Your sins are forgiven.' He also says: 'Follow me.'

Theme introduction and Scripture readings

Old Testament; Epistle; Gospel.

Sermon

Open or responsive prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Peace may be shared

Offertory

All **Lord God, we bring you**
the ordinary things of life –
food and drink and money –
and with them we bring ourselves.
Take us, and our gifts of money,
to do your work in the world.
Take this food and drink from our tables
and feed us from your table with your love.
Accept the praise we offer;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

or

All **Eternal God,**
we come with these gifts
to offer the praise of our lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Approach to Communion

As we gather at this table, we remember
that Jesus was born of Mary;
he lived our common life on earth;
he suffered and died for us;
on the third day God raised him from the dead;
and he is always present with us through the Holy Spirit.
In his presence,
and in the company of all the people of God,
past, present, and to come,
we celebrate the Supper of the Lord.

'Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking;
if you hear my voice and open the door,
I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.' Revelation 3:20

or

How shall I repay the Lord for all his benefits to me?
I will take the cup of salvation,
and call upon the name of the Lord.
I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and call upon the name of the Lord. Psalm 116:11-12; 16

or

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst to see right prevail
for they shall be satisfied. Matthew 5:6

Narrative of the institution

Hear again the words of institution of this feast as they are given by the Apostle Paul:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed
took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he
took the cup also after supper, saying 'This cup is the
new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you
drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat
this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's
death until he comes. 1 Corinthians 11:23-6

Thanksgiving and Sharing

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 our thanks and praise.**

We give thanks to you, O God,
that from the earth you cause the grain to come
for the making of bread.
We praise you for Christ, the bread of life,
whose body was given for us.
By your Holy Spirit sanctify us and this loaf,
that the bread which we break may be to us
the communion of the body of Christ,
and that we may be made one in him.
As of old you fed your people in the wilderness,
so feed us now that we may live to your praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Minister breaks the bread saying:

When Jesus had given thanks,
he broke the bread and said:
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

The distribution takes place

We give thanks to you, O God,
that you cause the vine to yield fruit.
We bless you for Christ, the true vine,
whose blood was poured out for us.
By your Holy Spirit sanctify us and this wine,
that the cup which we bless may be to us
the communion of the blood of Christ,
and that through abiding in him
we may bear fruit that shall last.
As we share the sufferings of Christ, so give us grace
that we may know the power of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Minister pours the wine and distributes it saying:

When Jesus had given thanks,
he gave the cup to his disciples and said:
'Drink this, all of you;
for 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.'

or

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 our thanks and praise.**

We give thanks to you, O God,
that from the earth you cause the grain to come
for the making of bread
and that you cause the vine to yield fruit.
We praise you for Christ,
the bread of life and true vine,
whose body was given for us,
and whose blood was poured out for us.

By your Holy Spirit sanctify us
and these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread which we break
may be the communion of the body of Christ,
and the cup which we bless
may be the communion of the blood of Christ.
As we share the sufferings of Christ,
so give us grace to know the power of his resurrection,
that we may be made one and evermore abide in him,
to your praise and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

The Minister breaks the bread saying:

When Jesus had given thanks he broke the bread and said:
'Take, eat: this is my body which is for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

The distribution takes place

The Minister pours the wine and distributes it saying:

When Jesus had given thanks,
he gave the cup to his disciples and said:
'Drink this, all of you;
for 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.'

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things.
May the ears that have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute.
May the eyes that have seen your great love
shine with the light of hope.
May the tongues that have sung your praise
also speak the truth.
May the feet that have walked in your house
ever walk in the light.
May the bodies that have tasted your living body
be restored to newness of life.
Thanks be to God for his gift beyond words.

All **Amen.**

or

All **Now, Lord let your servant go in peace:**
your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared
in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel. Luke 2:29-32

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son,**
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever.
Amen.

Blessing