

All-Age Communion



Welcome to St Peter's Church!

Today children and adults are worshipping together. In this way we celebrate the fellowship of all God's people crossing boundaries of age and experience. Whether this is your first time with us, or you are a regular worshipper at St Peter's, we are delighted to see you. If you are new, please do make yourself known to one of the sidespeople.

We call this service a communion, or a Eucharist. In it, we hear the Word of God (from the Bible), reflect on it together, and come to the altar to receive bread and wine or a blessing. This reminds us of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

There are no special children's groups today. Please don't be anxious if young children make some noise. But if they become very restless, the children's corner at the back of church or the Parish Room (through the link corridor) are available as break-out spaces. We usually keep the third Sunday of the month as a service for all ages. On other Sundays, children are invited to the Old School Room behind the church for worship and creative activities suitable for their age group. They return to church towards the end of the service.

At the time of communion everyone is warmly invited to come to the altar. Communicant members of any church are welcome to receive communion. If you have not received communion before, please do come up for a prayer of blessing. However, during the service, please do join in as you feel comfortable: there is no pressure to come forwards, and it is fine to remain seated. If you need a glutenfree wafer, please tell one of the sidespeople.

Welcome and Greeting

The priest welcomes the congregation before the first hymn is sung.

Opening Hymn or Song

(please stand)

We meet in the name of God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Lighting the Candles

We sing:
Come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come and praise your Maker,
come now and worship the Lord.

Confession (we say sorry)

In silence we remember the ways we have not loved God or been kind to one another.

We have not always worshipped God our creator. Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

We have not always followed Christ our Saviour Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide. Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

May the God of love bring you back to himself, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria (please stand)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen,

Glory to God, Glory to God,
Son of the Father.

Glory to God, glory to God,
Son of the Father.

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

Alleluia, amen,
alleluia, amen,
alleluia, amen,
alleluia, amen,

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit.

To him be glory for ever.

To him be glory for ever.

Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen.

The Collect (prayer for the day)

Hymn or Song

Bible Reading

(please stand)

When the reading is announced:

The Lord be with you And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N: Glory to you O Lord.

Talk (please be seated)

Statement of Faith

(please stand)

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

(please be seated or kneel)

We may use one of the following responses: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

or Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us**

After the final prayer we may say:
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace (please stand)

God has called us to live in peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you and also with you.

We share a sign of peace with each other.

Hymn or Song

A collection is taken during this hymn to support the work of the church. If for any reason this is impractical, a collection plate can be found at the back of the church.

Offering Bread and Wine

With this bread that we bring We shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring We shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body; wine for his blood Gifts from God to his table we bring We shall remember Jesus.

Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth to discover and cherish.

You give us happy times and things to celebrate. In these we taste your kingdom, a feast for all your children.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, I lift my voice in worship, I'll sing your praise for all my days, holy, holy Lord.

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, I lift my eyes in wonder; I glimpse your grace in ev'ry place, holy, holy Lord

We thank you, loving Father, because when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross, and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory,

through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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 the Bread

Bread is broken, wine is poured, Jesus Christ is with us here.

Invitation to Communion

All who have received communion before are most welcome to receive it here. If you have not received communion before, then we invite you to come forwards for a prayer of blessing if you would like to.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Hymn or Song during Communion

(please remain seated)

Thanksgiving Prayer

A seasonal post-communion prayer may first be used.

Loving God,
you feed us with gifts from heaven;
may this holy food
build us up in love
so that we may worship you,
grow together
and serve each other in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Notices

Thanksgiving Hymn or Song

(please stand)

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

Some material included in this service is copyright: © The Archbishops' Council 2000 Church Copyright License 1038025 Music Reproduction License 1038032 Calamus Licence 1890