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## **The Parish of Cannock and Huntington And the Parish of Hatherton**

*Building Community with Christ at the Centre*

### **Holy Communion at Easter**



#### **Notes:**

This service has been developed to enable Holy Communion to be celebrated in a safe and appropriate way. It includes practical steps in the administration of Holy Communion based on the Church of England's national guidance on the practice of Holy Communion provided by members of the Liturgical Commission and the Faith & Order Commission.

Celebrating the Eucharist is literally synonymous with giving thanks for the suffering, death, and resurrection of Christ and the benefits that the Cross has afforded us. Many will grieve the physical absence of the sacrament from their lives. Yet this time may be an opportunity to re-discover and recognize some of the other ways in which we participate in the paschal mystery: in the practice of reading and learning the Scriptures, in joining in the Daily Office as an expression of the prayer of the Church universal, in praying for the transformation of the world, in living out the Great Commission Jesus gave us, and in our own lives continually dying to sin and rising to new life.

When services of Holy Communion are online live those who tune in are

participating in a real Eucharistic assembly. Those who participate remotely in this way, but who are unable to be present physically, can practice a form of Spiritual Communion. The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing physically in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves.

Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament. The act of Spiritual Communion can take place at the point in the service when the participant would normally receive the bread and wine – Prayers have been included for these people within the service after the Priest has received Communion.

In our churches we rejoice in our worship of the living God, and seek to follow him in faith in our daily lives as we build community with Christ at the Centre.

It is our hope that you might encounter the living God as you worship with us today and that in the weeks ahead you may come to know his transforming power.



**O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Body of Christ keep you in eternal life

*Those intending to receive say **Amen***

*Please come up one at a time, as directed and respect social distancing rules. Sanitize your hands at the station at the front and stand to receive the wafer at a distance with your hands outstretched. Then return to your pew using the one way system. Gluten Free wafers are available but please come up after the other have received. **Please keep silent while others receive .***

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence is kept. A Post Communion prayer may be said and/or the following :*

**Lord we have broken your bread**

**And received your life.**

**By the power of your Spirit**

**Keep us always in your love;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **Blessing and dismissal**

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.  
**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**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.**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The President receives communion then leads those who do not intend to receive Communion and those watching on line in these prayers*

**Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care.  
Amen.**

## The Service

### Greeting

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

### Prayer of preparation

*Silence is kept.*

**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

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
The first commandment is this:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.  
**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

*Silence is kept as we bring to mind anything that is preventing us  
from being closer to God*

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,  
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## **Gloria**

*We stand for the Gloria*

**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:**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.  
**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven saying:

**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.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

## Preparation of the table

Pour upon the poverty of our love,  
and the weakness of our praise,  
the transforming fire of your presence.

**Amen**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.  
When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.  
**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.  
**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**



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.**

## The Collect

*The President introduces a time of silent prayer and then says the Collect*

## The Liturgy of the Word

*Please sit*

## The First Reading

*At the end of the Old Testament or Epistle readings this response is used:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel reading*

## Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*After the Gospel*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Affirmation of Faith

*Please stand as we declare our faith in God.*

#### **Either:**

**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.**

#### **Or**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### Prayers

*These responses or others are used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

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