

An Order for Holy Communion

3

Alternative Services Series 3

Black numbers indicate material which is mandatory

Blue numbers indicate material which is optional

It is provided in Canon B12 'Of the Ministry of Holy Communion' that only those who have been episcopally ordained priest shall consecrate the holy sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Notes

- 1 Posture.** Wherever a certain posture is particularly appropriate, it is indicated in the left-hand margin. At all other points local custom may be established and followed.
- 2 Saying and singing.** Where rubrics indicate that a section is to be 'said', this must be understood to include 'or sung' and vice versa.
- 3 Seasonal material.** The proper thanksgivings (28) are obligatory ; but the seasonal sentences (1, 37) and the seasonal blessings (45) are optional. The use of one portion of the optional material does not necessitate the use of the other portions.
- 4 Series 2 material.** During the initial period of experiment, it is permitted to use in certain sections the texts prescribed in Holy Communion Series 2 (excluding Appendix 2) instead of the texts printed here. These sections are : the Salutation (3), the Collect for Purity (4), the Gloria in Excelsis (5), the responses to the Gospel (11), the Nicene Creed (13), the Prayers (15), the Comfortable Words (17), the Confession (18), the Prayer of Humble Access (20), the Lord's Prayer (31), the Words of Administration (33), the Anthems (34), and the

final prayer after communion (40). Where parts of the service are also sung to well-known musical settings, it is permitted to use the words for which these settings were composed.

- 5 **The Kyries (5)**. The Kyries may be said or sung in English or Greek. In penitential seasons it is desirable that this section should be used in preference to Gloria in Excelsis.
- 6 **The Gloria in Excelsis (5)**. This canticle is also appropriate at sections 2, 10, or 41.
- 7 **The Collects (6)**. The Collects are either those appointed in the Book of Common Prayer or those appended to Holy Communion Series 1.
- 8 **The Lessons (7, 9, 11)**. The Lessons should be announced in the order : book, chapter, verse. They should be either those set out in Tables 1-3 appended to Holy Communion Series 3, or those in the Book of Common Prayer, or any other lessons which are authorized for use in the Church of England. It should be noted that the three lessons from the Old Testament and the New Testament in these tables form a coherent whole. But when only two lessons are used, the Old Testament lesson and the Gospel should be used during Advent and the last five weeks of Trinity ; the Epistle and the Gospel should be used during the rest of Trinity and Whitsun ; and either the Old Testament lesson or the Epistle should be used with the Gospel from Christmas until the end of Easter.
- 9 **The Sermon (12)**. A sermon should be preached

at (12) whenever possible ; but it is not necessary at every service.

- 10 **The Prayers (15)**. The introduction to the specific subjects of prayer is not restricted to the printed forms 'we give thanks for', 'we pray for', 'we commemorate'. Other forms may be used at the discretion of the minister provided they are clearly addressed to God. It is desirable that subjects of prayer should be expressed briefly.
- 11 **The Peace (22)**. The president may accompany the words of the Peace with a handclasp or similar action : and both the words and the action may be passed through the congregation.
- 12 **A Service without Communion**. When there is to be no communion, the minister reads the service as far as the absolution (19) and then adds the Lord's Prayer (31), the General Thanksgiving, and other prayers at his discretion, ending with the Grace. When such a service is led by a deacon or lay person, 'us' is said instead of 'you' in the Absolution (19).
- 13 **Hymns, Notices, Offerings of the People**. Points are indicated for the singing of hymns, the publication of banns of marriage and other notices, and the collection and presentation of the offerings of the people ; but if occasion requires, there are other points at which they may occur.

Seasonal Sentences

- Advent** The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it.
- Christmas** I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you ; he is Christ the Lord.
- Epiphany** The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all mankind.
- Lent** Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him.
- Passiontide** Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.
- Easter** It is true : the Lord has risen : alleluia !
- Ascension** Christ has gone up on high : alleluia !
- Whitsun** God's love has been shed abroad in our hearts through the Holy Spirit he has given us.
- Trinity Sunday** By day and by night around the throne they sing : Holy, holy, holy is God the sovereign Lord of all ; he was, he is, and he is to come.

- All Saints** Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.
- Saints' Days** The righteous will be remembered for ever : the memory of the righteous is a blessing.
- Harvest** The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.
- Dedication** Truly the Lord is in this place ; this is no other than the house of God ; this is the gate of heaven.
- Unity** How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity !

The Word and The Prayers

The Preparation

2 At the entry of the ministers a sentence (pp. 4-5) may be used ; and a hymn, a canticle, or a psalm may be sung.

3 The minister may say

All The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

4 The following prayer may be said.

All **Almighty God,**
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
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.

5 The Kyries may be said.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Or the canticle Gloria in Excelsis may be said.

All

**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:
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.**

6 The collect of the day.

The Ministry of the Word

7 Sit

The Old Testament lesson. At the end there may be said

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept.

8 A psalm may be said.

9 The Epistle. At the end there may be said

Reader This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept.

10 A canticle, a hymn, or a psalm may be sung.

11 Stand

The Gospel. When it is announced

All **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of Christ.

All **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

Silence may be kept.

12 Sit

The sermon.

At the end silence may be kept.

13 Stand

The Nicene Creed is said, at least on Sundays and greater Holy Days.

All

**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,
one in Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died, and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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.**

**With the Father and the Son he is
worshipped and glorified.**

He 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.**

The Prayers

14 Banns of marriage and other notices may be published ;
the offerings of the people may be collected ; and a
hymn may be sung.

15 Intercessions and thanksgivings are offered by the
president or by some other person. These may be
introduced by biddings.

It is not necessary to include specific subjects in any
section of the following prayer.

The set passages may also follow one another as a
continuous whole, without versicles and responses.

Minister Let us pray for the Church and for the
world ; and let us thank God for his
goodness.
Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who promised through your Son Jesus
Christ to hear us when we pray in faith ;

We give thanks for/ we pray for
*the Church throughout the world. . .
our own Church, our diocese and bishop. . .
any particular work of the Church. . .*

Silence may be kept.

Strengthen your Church to carry
forward the work of Christ ; that we and
all who confess your Name may unite
in your truth, live together in your love,
and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

All

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for/ we pray for
*the nations of the world. . .
our own nation. . .
all men in their various callings. . .*

Silence may be kept.

Give wisdom to all in authority,
especially Elizabeth our Queen ; direct
this nation and all nations in the ways
of justice and of peace ; that men may
honour one another, and seek the
common good.

Lord, in your mercy

All

Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for/we pray for
*the local community...
our families and friends...
particular persons...*

Silence may be kept.

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours in Christ ; that we may serve him in one another, and love as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

All

Hear our prayer.

We pray for
*the sick and the suffering...
those who mourn...
those without faith...*

We give thanks and pray for
all who serve and relieve them...

Silence may be kept.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit ; give them courage and hope in their troubles ; and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

All

Hear our prayer.

12

We commemorate
the departed, especially...

Silence may be kept.

We commend all men to your unfailing love, that in them your will may be fulfilled ; and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may share with them in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

All

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

16 The minister may say the Commandments (pp. 30-1) and silence may be kept after the responses ; or the Summary of the Law may be said (p. 32).

17 Minister

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us therefore confess our sins, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all men.

13

Or he says one or more of these sentences :

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Hear what St Paul says.

This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear what St John says.

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous ; and he is the expiation of our sins.

After which he says :

Let us therefore confess our sins, in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all men.

18 Kneel

Silence may be kept.

All

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in thought and word and deed, in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done, through ignorance, 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.

19 President

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.

All

Amen.

20 All may say **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 we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

The Communion

The Peace

21 Stand

President We are the Body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

22 The president gives the Peace to the congregation, saying :

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All

And also with you.

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

23 A hymn may be sung, and the offerings of the people may be collected and presented.

24 The bread and wine are brought to the holy table, and this sentence may be used :

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

25 The president takes the bread and wine.

The Thanksgiving

26 The president says.

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

President Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give him thanks and praise.

27 President It is not only right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places, to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Lord ;

For he is your living Word ; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image ;

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born as man, to die upon the cross, and to rise again for us ;

Through him you have made us a people for your own possession, exalting him to your right hand on high, and sending upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit.

28 Proper Thanksgivings

And now we give you thanks,

Advent because the day of our deliverance has dawned ; and through him you will make all things new, as he comes in power and triumph to judge the world.

Christmas Presentation Annunciation because by the power of the Holy Spirit he took our nature upon him and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother, that being himself without sin he might make us clean from all sin.

Epiphany Transfiguration because in coming to dwell among us as man, he revealed the radiance of his glory, and brought us out of darkness into his own marvellous light.

Lent because through him you have given us the spirit of discipline, that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace.

Passiontide because for our salvation he was obedient even to death on the cross. The tree of defeat became the tree of glory ; and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

Easter for his glorious resurrection from the dead. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored to us eternal life.

Ascension because in his risen body he appeared to his disciples and in their sight was taken into heaven, to reign with you in glory.

Whitsun because by that same Spirit we are led into all truth and are given power to proclaim your gospel to the nations and to serve you as a royal priesthood.

Trinity Sunday because you have revealed your glory as the glory of your Son and of the Holy Spirit : three persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendour, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be worshipped and adored.

Saints' Days for the glorious pledge of the hope of our calling which you have given us in your saints ; that, following their example and strengthened by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us, and with them receive the unfading crown of glory.

Dedication for your blessings on this house of prayer, where we are stirred to faithful witness, and are built by your Spirit into a temple made without hands, even the body of your Son, Jesus Christ.

All

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious Name, for ever praising you and saying :

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

President

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ ; and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood ;

For in the same night that he was betrayed, he took bread ; and after giving you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said, 'Take, eat ; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' Again, after supper he took the cup ; he gave you thanks, and gave it to them, saying, '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.'

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

President Therefore, heavenly Father, with this bread and this cup we do this in remembrance of him : we celebrate and proclaim his perfect sacrifice made once for all upon the cross, his resurrection from the dead, and his ascension into heaven ; and we look for his coming in glory. Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise ; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

With him, and in him, and through him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father Almighty, in songs of everlasting praise :

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

Silence may be kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

30 The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying :

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.**

The Giving of the Bread and the Cup

31 President As our Saviour has taught us,
so we pray :

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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

32 President Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

33 **The president and the other communicants receive the holy communion.**

At the administration the ministers say to each communicant,

The Body of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The Blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

The communicant replies each time,

Amen.

and then receives.

34 **During THE COMMUNION these and other hymns and anthems may be sung :**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

35 **If either or both of the consecrated elements are likely to prove insufficient, the president returns to the holy table and adds more, with these words :**

Having given thanks to you, Father, over the bread and the cup according to the institution of your Son, Jesus Christ, who said, 'Take, eat ; this is my body', (and/or 'Drink this ; this is my blood'.) we pray that this bread/wine also may be to us his body/blood, and be received in remembrance of him.

36 **Any consecrated bread and wine which is not required for purposes of communion is consumed at the end of the administration, or after the service.**

After Communion

37 **A seasonal sentence may be said.**

Advent

Our Lord says, 'Surely I come quickly.' Even so : come, Lord Jesus !

Christmas

The bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

Lent

Jesus said, 'You are those who have continued with me in my trials ; you shall eat and drink at my table in my kingdom.'

Passiontide As we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the death of the Lord
until he comes.

Easter Jesus said, 'He who eats my flesh and
drinks my blood has eternal life, and
I will raise him up at the last day.'

Ascension God has highly exalted his Son,
and given him a name which is above
all other names, that at the name of
Jesus every knee shall bow.

Whitsun God who raised Christ Jesus from the
dead will also give life to your mortal
bodies through his Spirit who dwells
in you.

**Trinity
Sunday** We were chosen of old in the purpose
of the Father, hallowed to his service
in the Spirit, and consecrated with
the blood of Jesus Christ.

Saints' Days You have come to Mount Zion, to God
the judge of all, to the spirits of just
men made perfect, and to Jesus
the mediator of the new covenant.

Dedication The heaven of heavens cannot contain
our God ; how much less this house
that we have built !

Unity Through Christ Jesus we all have
access to the Father in the one Spirit.

Silence may be kept.

38 Either or both of the following prayers are said.

39 President Father of all, we give you thanks and
praise, that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us
home. Dying and living, he declared
your love, gave us grace, and opened
the gate of glory. May we who share
Christ's body live his risen life ; we who
drink his cup bring life to others ; we
whom the Spirit lights give light to the
world. Keep us in this hope that we
have grasped ; so we and all your
children shall be free, and the whole
earth live to praise your Name ;
through Christ our Lord.

All

Amen.

40 All

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

41 A hymn or canticle may be sung.

42 The president may say this or the appropriate seasonal blessing.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord ; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

43 President Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

44 The Ministers and people depart.

45 Seasonal Blessings

Advent The Sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path ;
And the blessing. . .

Christmas Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom ;
And the blessing. . .

Lent Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him ;
And the blessing. . .

Passiontide Christ the Saviour draw you to himself, so that you find in him crucified a sure

ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven ;
And the blessing. . .

Easter The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting 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. . .

Ascension Christ our king make you faithful and patient to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory ;
And the blessing. . .

Whitsun The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the word and works of God ;
And the blessing. . .

Trinity Sunday God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace ;
And the blessing. . .

Saints' Days God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love ;
And the blessing. . .

Unity Christ the good shepherd bring you and all who hear his voice to be one flock, gathered into one fold ;
And the blessing. . .

Appendix: The Commandments

- Minister Our Lord Jesus Christ said, If you love me, keep my commandments : happy are those who hear the word of God and keep it. Hear then these commandments which God has given to his people, and take them to heart. I am the Lord your God : you shall have no other gods but me. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not make for yourself any idol. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not dishonour the name of the Lord your God. You shall worship him with reverence and awe.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister Remember the Lord's day and keep it holy. Christ is risen from the dead ; set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on the earth.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

- Minister Honour your father and mother. Live as servants of God : honour all men ; love the brotherhood.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not commit murder. Do not nurse anger against your brother ; overcome evil with good.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not commit adultery. Know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not steal. You shall work honestly and give to those in need.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not be a false witness. Let everyone speak the truth.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**
- Minister You shall not covet anything which belongs to your neighbour. Remember the words of the Lord Jesus : It is more blessed to give than to receive. Love your neighbour as yourself, for love is the fulfilling of the law.
- All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

The Summary of the Law

Minister

Our Lord Jesus Christ said : 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. This is the first commandment. The second is this : Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

All

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

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