

# JOINING OUR VOICES WITH ANGELS AND ARCHANGELS



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An Instructed Holy Eucharist

# WHERE DOES CHRISTIAN LITURGY COME FROM?

## SCRIPTURES THAT PREFIGURE THE CHRISTIAN LITURGY

The Liturgy is predominantly drawn directly from Holy Scripture, much of which is noted in this bulletin. It is not just the words used that come from Scripture, though. The overall shape of the liturgy, the parts and sections of it, also come from Jewish liturgies and Holy Scripture. Here are several key Scriptures that prefigure and give substance to the Christian liturgy, especially its roots as a sacred meal, a sacrifice, and participation in heavenly worship.

## FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

### ABEL'S SACRIFICE

Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering. *Genesis 4:4*

### MELCHIZEDEK'S SACRIFICE

King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything. *Genesis 14:18-20*

### THE PASSEVER MEAL

This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance. *Exodus 12:14*

### THE COVENANT WITH ISRAEL AT MT. SINAI

Then he took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said, "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words" Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up; also they beheld God, and they ate and drank. *Exodus 7-9, 11b*

### THE DAY OF ATONEMENT

Aaron shall put on the holy linen tunic, and shall have the linen undergarments next to his body, fasten the linen sash, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy vestments. He shall bathe his body in water, and then put them on. He shall take from the congregation of the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering. *Leviticus 16:4-5*

### ISAIAH'S VISION OF THE HEAVENLY WORSHIP

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. *Isaiah 6:1-4*

### THE JOY OF ADORATION

I was glad when they said unto me, "We will go into the house of the Lord." O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him. *Psalms 122:1; 96:9*

### MALACHI'S PROPHECY

For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations, and in every place incense is offered to my name, and a pure offering; for my name is great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*

### EZRA READS THE LAW TO GOD'S PEOPLE

So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. *Nehemiah 8:2-3*

## FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

### THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. *Matthew 2:10-11*

### FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND

Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When the crowds learned it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them of the kingdom of God and cured those who had need of healing. And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing over them. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.

*John 6:4, Luke 9:11, 16*

### THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. *Luke 24:27-31*

### THE LITURGY OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

*Acts 2:42*

On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread... *Acts 20:7a*

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf. *1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

### THE FIRST COVENANT SET THE PATTERN FOR THE SECOND COVENANT

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. *1 Corinthians 10: 1-3*

### THE ETERNAL PRIESTHOOD OF JESUS

For it is attested of him, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant. He holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. Now the main point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, 2 a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent that the Lord, and not any mortal, has set up. 3 For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; hence it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. *Hebrews 7:17, 22, 24-27, 8:1-3*

### THE HEAVENLY LITURGY

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped. *Revelation 5:11-14*

## FROM THE EARLY CHURCH

### THE DIDACHE (CIRCA 100 AD)

But every Lord's day gather yourselves together, and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure. But let no one that is at variance with his fellow come together with you, until they be reconciled, that your sacrifice may not be profaned. For this is that which was spoken by the Lord: In every place and time offer to me a pure sacrifice; for I am a great King, says the Lord, and my name is wonderful among the nations.

### A LETTER OF JUSTIN MARTYR (CIRCA 155 AD)

And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things. Then we all rise together and pray, and, having ended the prayers, we salute one another with a kiss. There is then brought to the president of the brethren bread and a cup of wine mixed with water; and he taking them, gives praise and glory to the Father of the universe, through the name of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and offers thanks at considerable length for our being counted worthy to receive these things at His hands. And when he has concluded the prayers and thanksgivings, all the people present express their assent by saying Amen. This word Amen answers in the Hebrew language to so be it. And when the president has given thanks, and all the people have expressed their assent, those who are called by us deacons give to each of those present to partake of the bread and wine mixed with water over which the thanksgiving was pronounced, and to those who are absent they carry away a portion.

And this food is called among us the Eucharist, of which no one is allowed to partake but the man who believes that the things which we teach are true, and who has been washed with the washing that is for the remission of sins, and unto regeneration, and who is so living as Christ has enjoined. For not as common bread and common drink do we receive these; but in like manner as Jesus Christ our Saviour, having been made flesh by the Word of God, had both flesh and blood for our salvation, so likewise have we been taught that the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by transmutation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh. For the apostles, in the memoirs composed by them, which are called Gospels, have thus delivered unto us what was enjoined upon them; that Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, said, This do in remembrance of Me, this is My body; and that, after the same manner, having taken the cup and given thanks, He said, This is My blood; and gave it to them alone.

### QUOTE FROM A THIRD CENTURY SERMON

In every meeting or congregation of the Church, the healthful mysteries of the Eucharist are celebrated.

*St. John Chrysostom | Homily on Matthew 26*

## ABOUT THIS BULLETIN

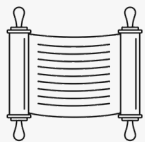
In this bulletin, you will find the Renewed Ancient liturgy of the Holy Eucharist from the Book of Common Prayer 2019 (Anglican Church in North America). This particular liturgy has been selected because it is based on an older liturgy (dating back to roughly 235 AD) and has much in common with other liturgies, hopefully making the notes here broadly useful for Christians worshiping in various liturgical traditions today.

Throughout this bulletin, you will find various notes explaining or adding depth to the liturgy, each marked with a symbol. Here are the categories of notes you will find:



### Roots in the Scriptures

The liturgy has been called “the Bible arranged for worship.” The left column will contain the liturgy, and the right column will show the biblical roots of the language of our liturgy.



### Covenant Connections

The Old and New Covenants (what we often call the Old and New Testaments) were promises made by God to his people and promises made by his people back to him. While some of the details changed from Old to New, the Old Covenant set a pattern of worship that continues in the New. These notes will highlight the connections between the Jewish liturgy of the Old Covenant and the Christian liturgy of the New Covenant.



### Worshipping with the Fathers

In the earliest days of Christianity, the bishops would come at Lent to teach the whole of Scripture in preparation for Baptism at Easter. Then, after receiving the Holy Spirit in baptism, the bishop would teach the new Christians about the liturgy and sacraments. These notes offer some of the gems of these classes from so many years ago.




### Ritual Notes

Many Christians have continued to study, meditate on, and offer insight to our worship. These notes include reflections from contemporary Christians on the liturgy.



### Manual Acts of Devotion

Liturgy recognizes that humans are more than just intellectual. Christian worship engages the mind, the heart, the soul, and the body. We stand, sit, and kneel together; our posture is part of our worship. Many Christians also use their body to cross themselves or bow at different moments out of reverence (usually at the names of Jesus or the Holy Trinity). These are called Manual Acts of Devotion. You will see a ✝ where it is common to make the sign of the Cross, and  where it is common to bow.



## Ritual Note

I am convinced that the decisive question is not so much how believers experience the liturgy but whether believers *live from* the liturgy they celebrate. How believers experience the liturgy, in fact, depends on how they live from the liturgy. To live from the liturgy one celebrates means to live from what one experiences there: mercy invoked, the word of God heard, thanks given, Eucharist received as communion. If believers live from the liturgy, they will experience it differently.

*Goffredo Boselli | The Spiritual Meaning of the Liturgy*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

### THE ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: ✝ the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom,  
now and for ever. Amen.**



## Ritual Note

Christianity is both faith and practice. It is a process - the ongoing process of growing into the image of Jesus Christ that begins with baptism and the reception of the Holy Spirit. The Divine Liturgy both expresses this relationship and brings the faithful into that ongoing saving relationship with God the Father, made possible by the Son and brought about by the Holy Spirit: it brings them indeed into a deep, personal, and spiritual worship experience before the very Throne of God.

*Benjamin Williams | Orthodox Worship*

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.**



Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and for evermore! *Psalm 133:2*



In the Temple, on the Day of Atonement the priests would say to the people: "Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed are You, who redeems Israel." And the congregation would respond with a loud voice: "Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom, forever and ever." *Ta'anit 16b - The Talmud*



[F]or the Lord searches all hearts, and understands every plan and thought. *1 Chronicles 28:9*

Lord, all my desires are known to Thee. *Psalm 38:9*

Shall not God search this out? for he knows the secrets of the heart. *Psalm 44:21*

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. *Psalm 51:10*

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. *Matthew 22:37*

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord!" *Luke 1:46*



## Worshiping with the Fathers

If your mind is untainted by any evil, free from sin, and purified from all stain, then indeed are you blessed, because your sight is keen and clear. Once purified, you see things that others cannot see. When the mists of sin no longer cloud the eye of your soul, you see that blessed vision clearly in the peace and purity of your own heart. That vision is nothing else than the holiness, the purity, the simplicity and all the other glorious reflections of God's nature, through which God himself is seen.

*St. Gregory of Nyssa*

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.



The Summary of the Law:  
*Matthew 22:37-40*



## Ritual Note

Called upon to practise in their fullness the two great commandments, you can only hope to get the second one right, if you are completely controlled by the first. And that will depend on the quality of your secret inner life.

*Evelyn Underhill | Concerning The Inner Life*

## THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

## THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**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.**



The Gloria:

“Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” *Luke 2:14*

Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever. *Revelation 7:12*

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. *John 1:29*

Let them know that you alone, you whose name is the Lord, are the Most High over all the earth. *Psalms 83:19*

The Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name. *John 14:26*

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*The collect of the day - a prayer that both recalls the works of God and asks him for something in light of what he has done.*

**Amen.**



Soon, along came Boaz from Bethlehem and said to the harvesters, 'The Lord be with you,' and they replied, 'The Lord bless you.'" *Ruth 2:4*

The Lord be with your spirit.  
Grace be with you.  
*2 Timothy 4:22*



### Ritual Note

This double aspect of the *narratio*, which corresponds to thanksgiving, and the *expactio*, which corresponds to the prayer of petition, is constitutive of Christian thought. It rests on the faith in what God has done in the past in order to find the foundations for hope in what He will do in the present and in the future.

*Jean Daniélou | The Bible and The Liturgy*

## THE LESSONS

The First Lesson

*A reading from the Old Testament, Acts of the Apostles, or Revelation.*

The Psalm

The Second Lesson

*A reading from an epistle (letter) from the New Testament.*



"The word of the Lord abides for ever." That word is the good news which was preached to you.  
*1 Peter 1:25*

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! *Romans 7:25*



And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.  
*Luke 4:16*



### Covenant Connection

On his entrance into the Synagogue, or perhaps before that, the chief ruler would request Jesus to act for that Sabbath as the *Sheliach Tsibbur* (the representative of the people). ... On the Sabbath, at least seven persons were called upon successively to read portions from the Law... Upon the Law followed a section from the Prophets, the reading of which was in olden times immediately followed by an address, discourse or sermon.

*Alfred Edersheim | The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*



## The Gospel Lesson

*A reading from one of the four gospels.*

 A reading from the Gospel according to St. \_\_\_\_.

**Glory to you, O Lord.** ✙ ✙ ✙

*It is customary to mark a cross  
with your thumb on your  
forehead, lips, and heart here.*


The Gospel of the Lord.

 **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**


## THE SERMON

## THE CREED

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

**We believe in one Lord,  Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten 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.**



When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.” *Acts. 11:18*

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. *Deuteronomy 6:4-5*

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. *Colossians 1:16*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. *John 1:1-3*

Then [Pontius Pilate] handed him over to them to be crucified.” *John 19:16* ...Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:3-4* ...he departed from them and was taken up to heaven. *Luke 24:51* ...where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. *Colossians 3:1* ...the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ... *2 Thessalonians 2:1* ...who will judge the living and the dead. *2 Timothy 4:1* “...he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.” *Luke 1:33*

**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 worshiped 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.**



...the Spirit of truth that  
proceeds from the Father.  
*John 15:26*

There is one body and one  
Spirit, ...one Lord, one faith, one  
baptism, one God and Father of  
us all... *Ephesians 4:4-6*

“For if we have grown into  
union with him through a death  
like his, we shall also be united  
with him in the resurrection.”  
*Romans 6:5*



### **Worshiping with the Fathers**

Therefore we had need look well to our faith, and be careful to keep that entire; and for that purpose it is not amiss to rehearse it often, and guard our soul with it. When we are terrified, run we to the Creed, and say, I believe in God the Father Almighty, this will guard your soul from fear: If you be tempted to despair, guard your soul with the Creed, say, I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was crucified, etc. for us men and our salvation; that may secure your soul from despair: If you be tempted to Pride, run to the Creed, and a sight of Christ hanging upon the Cross, will humble you: If to Lust or uncleanness, to the Creed, and see the wounds of Christ, and the remembrance of them, if any thing will quench that fiery dart: If we be tempted to presume and grow careless, take up again this shield of Faith, see Christ in the Creed coming to judgment, and this terror of the Lords, will persuade men. In a word, the Creed is a guard and defense against all temptations of the world, all the fiery darts of the Devil, all the filthy lusts of the flesh: Therefore, above all, take the shield of Faith, saith S. Paul, and be sure to guard your soul Morning and Evening with the Creed, thy symbol of the most holy Faith.

*St. Augustine*



### **Ritual Note**

The [Prayers of the People] is a prayer of creative desire; desire that the whole world may be brought to the altar of God, and made ardent by the flame of his Charity, transforming all the activities and institutions of men, and making them a part of the Heavenly Kingdom. [This] reminds us that Christianity is not a religion of escape; that it accepts the full burden, fret and responsibility of humanity, does not evade it. The Christian communicant goes to the altar as a member of the family; not as one who has contracted out of the family life. He goes to offer himself to that God, who in Christ reconciled the world to Himself. Intercession, therefore, embraces the whole world in its scope; not only the hopeful causes, but the hopeless, not only the respectable but the disgraceful. The confusions, sins, and cruelties; the people and policies that we should prefer to forget; the horrors, the failures, the short ends. All these it can, by the mysterious power of sacrifice, lift up and reconcile to God.

*Evelyn Underhill | The Mystery of Sacrifice*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Deacon says these prayers.*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, “hear our prayer.”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.  
Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For Foley our Archbishop, and Neil, our Bishop, for David and Chris our Priests, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving let us pray.

Lord, in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant concludes with this Collect.*

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

*The Deacon says the following.*

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*Silence.*

*The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Priest stands and says*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.



If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9*

You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love *Nehemiah 9:17*

Then David said to God, ‘I have sinned greatly in doing this thing’ *1 Chronicles 21:8* in my thoughts *2 Corinthians 10:5*, *Matthew 5:28*, *Phil 4:8*, in my words *James 3:5*, in what I have failed to do *James 4:17*, *Luke 10:30-32*

Let your light shine before others, so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. *Matthew 5:16*

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” *1 John 1:9*

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” *John 20:21-23*

*1 Timothy 1:15*

## THE PREPARATION RITES

### THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*



Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. *John 14:27*



### Worshiping with the Fathers

Do not think that this is the kiss which friends are accustomed to give one another when they meet in the public square. This is not such a kiss. This unites souls to one another and destroys all resentment. The kiss is a sign of the union of souls. This is why the Lord said: If you bring your offering to the altar and you remember that you have anything against your brother, go first and be reconciled with your brother."

*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

In the Oblation, the Church - that poor widow - casts all her life into the treasury of God.

*St. Irenaeus*

### THE OFFERTORY

*During the Offertory a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. The Deacon prepares the Holy Table for the celebration. Representatives of the Congregation may bring the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Deacon or Priest.*



You shall make a table...You shall make its plates and dishes for incense, and its flagons and bowls with which to pour drink offerings; you shall make them of pure gold. And you shall set the bread of the Presence on the table before me always.

*Exodus 25:23-24, 29-30*



### Ritual Note

Offerings are an high part of God's service and worship, taught by the light of nature and right reason : which bids us *to honour God with our substance*, as well as with our bodies and souls : to give a part of our goods to God as an homage or acknowledgment of his Dominion over us, and that all that we have comes from God ; "Who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort ; for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee ?" (1 Chron. 29:14). This duty of offerings was practised by the Fathers before the Law, with a gracious acceptation. Witness Abel (Gen. 4:4). Comanded in the Law, "Speak to the children of Israel that they bring me an offering" (Exod. 25:2). Confirmed by our Saviour in the Gospel, "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the Altar, and there remembreth that thy brother hath ought against thee, leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." (Matt. 5:23). Add to this, that offerings were highly commended by the Gospel, in the Wise men that offered Gold, Frankincense and Myrrhe (Matth. 2:11).

*Anthony Sparrow | A Rationale Upon the Book of Common Prayer*



## Worshipping with the Fathers

[As the priest enters the sanctuary and approaches the altar,] the angels surround the priest. The whole sanctuary and the space around the altar are filled with the heavenly powers to honor Him Who is present on the altar.

*St. John Chrysostom*

Deacons represent both angels of the heavenly liturgy and the angels who came to our Lord's aid in his passion, co-mingling the two great sacramental realities of the passion and death and the heavenly sacrifice.

*Jean Daniélou | The Bible and The Liturgy*

## THE PRIEST'S PRIVATE PRAYERS

*Traditionally the Priest says these or similar prayers during the Offertory.*

### OFFERING THE BREAD\*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven.

### PREPARING THE CUP

By the Mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

### OFFERING THE CUP\*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the Cup of Salvation.

### BEFORE THE LAVABO (RITUAL WASHING OF THE PRIEST'S HANDS)

Be present, be present, O Jesus our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread.

### AT THE LAVABO

Lord, wash away my iniquities and cleanse me of my sins.

I wash my hands in innocence, and go about thy altar, O Lord. *Psalm 26:6*

### OFFERING THE ALMS

Receive, O Lord, these gifts presented by your people for the work of your Church.



\*Jesus probably also held a weekly solemn "fellowship meal" (*chaburah*) with his disciples. On the eve of the Sabbath families or groups of friends traditionally conducted such a meal, which began with the blessing of bread and wine. These meals, conducted in the home, were somewhat formal events, with standard ritual washings and prayers (*berakoth*): "Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, creator of the fruit of the vine...Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth." *Mike Aquilina | The Mass of the Early Christians*

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## THE SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



Let us lift up our hearts and hands to God in heaven  
*Lamentations 3:41*

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.  
*Colossians 3:1-2*



### Worshiping with the Fathers

Yes, truly at this moment, filled with holy fear we must hold our hearts raised on high to God and turned no longer toward the earth and earthly things. The priest invites us all implicitly to leave at this moment all the cares of life and our domestic preoccupations, and to have our hearts turned to heaven, to God the Friend of men. Then answer: We lift them up to the Lord, giving by your answer your assent to the priest's words. Let there be no one who says with his lips: we lift them up to the Lord and who keeps his spirit among the cares of this life. We ought always to be mindful of God. If this is impossible because of human weakness at least at this moment we must try to be mindful of Him.

*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

## THE PREFACE AND THE SANCTUS

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is your living Word from before time and for all ages; by him you created all things, and by him you make all things new. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**



And the four living creatures ... day and night without ceasing they sing, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come."  
*Revelation 4:8*

Above him stood the seraphim... and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." *Isaiah 6:1-3*

The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.'  
*Matthew 21:9*



### Worshiping with the Fathers

Humanity is as it were transported into heaven itself. He flies with the Seraphim. He sings the most holy hymn.

*St. John Chrysostom*


# THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION


*The People kneel.*

## THE AMNANESIS (THE REMEMBERING)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.” 

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he 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: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.” 



At the Passover Seder, the youngest child asks, “Why is tonight different from all other nights?” This begins the sacred meal that recount salvation history. This was to fulfill the commandment, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from this place. You shall tell your son on that day, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’”

*Haggadah and Exodus 13:3,8*



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.”



## Worshiping with the Fathers

The Eucharist is the unbloody sacrifice by which we communicate in the sufferings and in the divinity of Christ.

*Gregory of Nazianzus*

Each time that the sacrifice of Christ is offered, the Death of the Lord, His Resurrection, His Ascension and the remission of sins are signified.

*St. Ambrose*

To signify does not here mean only to recall. The word also intends to state that the sacrifice offered is not a new sacrifice, but the one sacrifice of Christ rendered present.

*Jean Daniélou | The Bible and The Liturgy*



## THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## THE OBLATION, EPICLESIS, AND DOXOLOGY

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify ✙ us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**Amen.** 



For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

Through [Christ], then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Hebrews 13:15-16*

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever. Amen.

*Romans 11:36*

“Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.”

*Nehemiah 8:6*



## Worshipping with the Fathers

Do not consider the bread and wine as being ordinary things. They are the Body and the Blood of Christ, according to His word. We pray God to send His Holy Spirit down on the offerings, so that He may make the bread His Body and the wine His Blood. And that which the Holy Spirit has touched becomes entirely consecrated and transformed.

*St. Cyril of Jerusalem*

Christ held Himself in His hands when He gave His Body to His disciples saying: ‘This is My Body.’ No one partakes of this Flesh before he has adored it.

*St. Augustine*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**



### Worshiping with the Fathers

We daily receive the Eucharist, for to be our food of salvation.

*St. Cyprian*

## THE FRACTION

*A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant 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 character 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.**

## THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
**grant us your peace.**



The Lord's Prayer:

*Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4*



For even Christ, our Passover, is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

*1 Corinthians 5:7-8*

I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which you have shown your servant. *Genesis 32:10*

“Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” *Matthew 15:27*

He will not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing mercy. *Micah 7:18*

So Jesus said to them, “Truly truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. *John 6:53-56*

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

OR

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.



### Ritual Note

"Holy Things for the Holy!" cries the celebrant in the earliest liturgies, as he lifts up the consecrated gifts. Not "Good Things for the Good"; but supernatural things for those imperfect creatures who have been baptized into the Supernatural, translated to another order--those looking towards God the Perfect and beginning to conceive of life as a response to God the Perfect, but unable without the "rich bread of Christ" to actualize the state to which they are called.

*Evelyn Underhill | The Mystery of Sacrifice*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Heavenly Father, We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE 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. **Amen.**

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**



"The most striking liturgical 'ancestor' of the [Liturgy] is the *todah* of ancient Israel. The Hebrew word *todah*, like the Greek Eucharist, means 'thank offering.' The ancient rabbis made a significant prediction regarding the *todah*. 'In the coming [Messianic] age, all sacrifices will cease except the *todah* sacrifice. This will never cease in all eternity.'"

*The Lamb's Supper* by Scott Hahn; *Pesiqta, I.*



And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Philippians 4:7*

And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.

*Luke 24:50-53*

## OCCASIONAL PRAYERS FROM THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER 2019

### 102. BEFORE THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your Holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### 104. BEFORE RECEIVING COMMUNION

Be present, be present, O Jesus, our great High Priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread; who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

### 105. AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION

O Lord Jesus Christ, in this wonderful Sacrament you have given us a memorial of your passion: Grant us, we pray, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of your redemption; who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## ADDITIONAL PRAYERS

### A PRAYER FOR BEFORE RECEIVING COMMUNION BY ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

All-powerful and everlasting God, behold, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. As one infirm, I approach the balm of life; as one begrimed the fountain of mercy; as one blind, the light of eternal splendor; as one poor and needy, the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore, I ask that from the abundance of Your immense generosity You may bestow that which is needed to cure my illness, to wash away my uncleanness, to illuminate my blindness, to enrich my poverty, and to clothe my nakedness. I ask all of this so that I might receive the Bread of Angels, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, with that reverence and humility with that contrition and devotion, with that purity and faith, with that resolve and intention which is expedient for the salvation of my soul. Allow me, I plead, to receive not only the sacrament of Your Body and Blood but also the reality and power of this sacrament. O most gentle God, allow me to receive the body of Your only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who was born of the Virgin Mary, so that I might be worthy to be united with His Mystical Body and counted among His members. O most loving Father, give to me Your beloved Son, Whom now I intend to receive in this hidden form but hope to contemplate face to face for all eternity. Who with You lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit world without end. Amen.

### A PRAYER FOR AFTER RECEIVING COMMUNION BY ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

I give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God. Not through any merit of my own, but only through the goodness of Your mercy, You have considered me - a sinner, a useless servant - worthy to be nourished with the precious Body and Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. I pray to You that this Holy Communion will not condemn me to punishment but will rather secure my forgiveness. May it be an armor of faith and a shield of good will. May it remove my vices and increase in me charity, patience, humility, obedience, and all virtues. May it be a firm defense against the plots of all my enemies, seen and unseen. May it perfectly quiet my passions, physical and spiritual. May it be the firmest bond to You, the one and true God. May it give me final happiness. I also pray that You bring me, a sinner, to that ineffable banquet where You dwell with Your Son and Holy Spirit. You Who are for Your saints true light, complete fulfillment, eternal joy, consummate delight, and perfect happiness. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.