

A SHORT ORDER FOR

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE PREPARATION

A hymn or psalm or bhajan may be sung or said -

As the ministers come to the Lord's Table, the congregation stands. The presbyter, or one of those with the presbyter, carries in both hands the Bible from which the lessons are to be read, and places it on the Table or on a lectern. The presbyter may stand behind the Table, facing the people.

The presbyter says, the congregation standing:

Let us pray

Great and merciful God, your life is the source of all life; your mercy is our only hope; your eyes watch over all your creatures; you know the secrets of our hearts. By your life-giving Spirit, draw us into your presence, that we may worship in the true life of your Spirit, who lives moved by your love, through him who has led us to your heart of love, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

(Lighting of the lamp - invoking the presence of God)

The presbyter says:

As the light is lit, let us pray that the flame of God's loving presence may spring up in our hearts and transform us by the knowledge of his glory.

*Then, as the lamp is lit by some members suitably selected from the congregation, a bhajan such as **Asatoma sadgamaya, Tamasoma jyothirgamaya, Mrithyoma amrithamgamaya, Shanthi, shanthi, shanthi** is chanted.)*

ADORATION

This ancient hymn is repeated thrice:

**Holy God,
Holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Then the presbyter says:

Brothers and sisters, we have come together to hear God's most holy Word, and to receive the body and blood of the Lord. Let us therefore kneel and

examine ourselves in silence, seeking God's grace that we may draw near to him with repentance and faith.

All kneel.

After a short silence the presbyter says:

You who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and peace with your neighbour, and intend to live a new life, following the commandments of God and walking from now on in his holy ways, make your humble confession to the compassionate God, that you may be reconciled anew to him, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The deacon leading, all say together:

O God of compassion, we confess that we have sinned against you and our sisters and brothers. We have not been true followers of your new way in Christ. We have not shared in your liberating work in the world. We have fallen short of your glory. In your great compassion, make us clean from our sin, and set us free in the joy of your Spirit, that we may serve you with new lives; through Jesus Christ who gave his life that we might live in peace with you and with our fellow creatures. AMEN

Then the presbyter stands and says: (a selection from the following)

Hear the gracious Word of God to all who truly turn to him through Jesus Christ:

Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. Isaiah 1:18

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. Jeremiah 31:33-34

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, *they* shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:40

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3:16

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I Timothy 1:15

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
I John 2:1-2

After a short silence, the presbyter says:

The Saviour of the world, the refuge of the repentant, forgives and strengthens all who truly seek his grace. He accepts you as his sons and daughters, and sets you free from the bondage of your past; for Christ died and rose to new life that we might all share his wholeness and abundant life. As God's own people, be merciful in action, kind in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you.

Amen, thanks be to God.

THE PEACE

(All Stand) Then the presbyter says

Having been forgiven and made whole through our peacemaker, let us live together in peace. God's peace challenges us and guides us towards the acts of justice, peace and integration of the whole creation. Let us say **Shalom** to one another and give each other a sign of reconciliation and peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you

And also be with you

(The peace is shared, passed either by touch of hand, or by the gesture of namaskara or a handclasp)

The congregation kneels

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The lesson from the Old Testament is read, and after it the congregation says:

This is your Word, thank you Lord. (or: Thanks be to you, O God.)

A psalm, bhajan or canticle may be sung

The lesson from the Epistle is read, and after it the congregation says:

We thank you God for speaking to us. (or: Thanks be to you, O God.)

*The congregation stands for the Gospel reading and joins in singing Gloria
The lesson from the Gospel is read, and after it the congregation says:*

**The Lord has spoken. Continue to speak to us Lord.
(or: Praise be to you, O Christ.)**

The Sermon

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN

The congregation may be seated.

The announcements may be made here, and the offering may be collected. A hymn or lyric may also be sung. An offertory prayer and an appropriate prayer remembering those who have celebrated birthdays, marriage anniversaries and other happy occasions may be said.

INTERCESSION

We pray for your Church in this world, that it may be obedient to your will and strong in your Spirit to show your love and glory to all people.

(Here the minister prays briefly in his own words, mentioning special needs of the local church, the diocese or the Church in its wider fellowship)

Lord in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

We pray for our country and for all countries; that people may live in peace with justice and honour:

(Special needs, national and international are mentioned)

Lord in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

We pray for the poor and the helpless, the sick, the bereaved, and all the victims of greed and persecution, that you may rescue them:

(any such people known to the congregation may be named)

Lord in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

We remember with gratitude the lives of those who have died in faith and pray that we too may be given strength and courage to follow in your way to the end:

(When names of individuals are mentioned the minister says: especially we remember...)

Lord in your mercy;

'Hear our prayer.

After the Litany the presbyter says:

Let us pray:

Eternal God, our Father, we commit our struggles and sufferings into your Son's wounded hands, our hopes and aspirations into His praying hands, our poor, hungry and exploited people into His just and caring hands, our living and departed into His hands that hold the key to the future. Blessed be the Lord, forever. **AMEN**

The presbyter then gives the first benediction:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **AMEN**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

All stand, and the presbyter says:

How very good and pleasant it is when people of God live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.
I Corinthians 10:17

Now I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord. Psalm 27:6

A hymn or lyric is sung while an offering of a tray of flowers, with other signs of God's goodness in creation are brought forward with the offerings of bread and wine for the Eucharist, and placed on the altar.

O Father, you have given us a new and living way to offer ourselves to you. Though unworthy we come to you, as we are, by that Way, your Son, Jesus of Nazareth; and in His name we ask you to accept and use us and these gifts however it best pleases you. All that is created is yours and everything that we can offer already belongs to you. **AMEN**

The bearers of the offertory return to their places.

The presbyter and the congregation kneel, and say together:

Be present, be present O Jesus you good High Priest, as you were in the midst of your disciples, and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. AMEN

The presbyter stands.

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts:

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Truly it is right and good to glorify you at all times and in all places, by offering you our thanksgiving O Lord holy Father/Parent. You spoke and the light shattered darkness, order arose from confusion. You breathed into the dust of the earth and we were formed in your image. Through your Son, our Lord Jesus you came to us while we wandered. He met us as a refugee, a threatened child. He called us by name to leave what is comfortable to be his disciples, friends and partners. With his outstretched arms on the cross, and through his death he bore our sins and through his resurrection we are saved. And through your Holy Spirit you brood over chaos that we create, mothering us and shaping a new creation. You enlighten everyone coming into the world. You inspired the prophets and the apostles to find the right word at the right time. You liberate, equip and commission your people for the continuance of your mission to make everything new. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim and sing your glory:

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.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night, in which he was betrayed, took bread and when he had given thanks to you, 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.

The same way after supper, he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Lord we commemorate your death on the cross, we celebrate your resurrection and we await your coming.

Eternal God, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine, that they may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ, and that we may become one in him. May his coming in glory find us ever watchful in prayer, strong in truth and love, and faithful in the breaking of the bread. Then, at last, all peoples will be free, all divisions healed, and with your whole creation, we will sing your praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

Here the presbyter may kneel

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN

Silence is kept for a moment, all kneeling. The prayer of humble access may be said:

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 from 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 and souls may be made clean by his most precious body and blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. AMEN

THE SHARING

As the bread is lifted up and broken, prior to the congregation's coming forward to share together in it, the following sentences may be said.

When we break the bread, do we not share in the body of Christ?

We seek to share your life, gracious God.

As the cup is lifted up

When we lift the cup, do we not share in the life-blood of Christ?

We seek to share your life, gracious God.

During this time these words may be said or sung

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

The ministers and the congregation receive the bread and the wine. The following words of administration may be used:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Bread of life

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, the true Vine

[If the bread or wine set apart be insufficient, the presbyter taking more,

may say:

Obeying the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, we take this bread [wine] to be set apart for this holy use, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN]**

When all have partaken, the minister says:

Having now by faith received the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, let us give thanks:

Merciful God of all creation, holy Father/Parent of all people through our Lord Jesus Christ who united all things in His fullness, we join Your whole creation in exultant praise of Your bountiful goodness. You have now touched us with new life and filled us with new hope that Your reign will come, that the hungry will be fed, that the oppressed will be set free from evil, that Your reconciling work will be done, that love and faithfulness meet together, that justice and peace will kiss each other and the whole creation filled with your glory. **AMEN**

Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God, for ever and ever. AMEN

The presbyter gives the second benediction:

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

AMEN

OR

The peace of God, which surpasses 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 amongst you and remain with you always. **AMEN**

Closing hymn & Recession

A hymn or lyric may be sung and the ministers go out carrying with them the Bible, the gifts of the people.

The presbyter then prays, people standing. Then says:

Presbyter: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Presbyter: Let us depart in peace

People: **In the name of Christ. Amen**

People may kneel, have silent prayer and quietly go out

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