

THE EUCHARIST

Thursday 16 September 2021



Welcome to this celebration of the Eucharist, and thank you for joining us whether from near or far. In this service we acknowledge and lament that we continue to be kept apart from each other and from the Lord's table; we pray for the world and each other; and, as at every Eucharist, we "proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11.26).

Please add your voice and your prayers as we worship God together.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of Preparation

Let us pray.
**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for God's forgiveness and peace.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.
**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's 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 Collect

O God,
without you we are not able to please you:
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING THE SCRIPTURES

First Reading

A reading from the book of Lamentations

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!

My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

‘The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul,
‘therefore I will hope in him.’

The LORD is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

It is good for one to bear
the yoke in youth,

to sit alone in silence

when the LORD has imposed it,

to put one’s mouth to the dust

(there may yet be hope),

to give one’s cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.

For the LORD will not reject for ever.

Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

(3.19-33; NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then
shall I fear?: the Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

**When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,
come upon me to devour me: they shall stumble
and fall.**

If an army encamp against me, my heart shall not be
afraid: and if war should rise against me, yet will I
trust.

**One thing I have asked from the Lord, which I
will require: that I may dwell in the house of
the Lord all the days of my life,**

To see the fair beauty of the Lord: and to seek his
will in his temple.

**For he will hide me under his shelter in the day of
trouble: and conceal me in the shadow of his
tent, and set me high upon a rock.**

And now he will lift up my head: above my enemies
round about me.

**And I will offer sacrifices in his sanctuary with
exultation: I will sing, I will sing praises to the
Lord.**

O Lord, hear my voice when I cry: have mercy upon
me and answer me.

**My heart has said of you, ‘Seek his face’: your
face, Lord, I will seek.**

Do not hide your face from me: or thrust your servant
aside in displeasure;

**For you have been my helper: do not cast me
away or forsake me, O God of my salvation.**

Though my father and my mother forsake me: the
Lord will take me up.

**Teach me your way, O Lord: and lead me in an
even path, for they lie in wait for me.**

Do not give me over to the will of my enemies: for
false witnesses have risen against me, and those
who breathe out violence.

**But I believe that I shall surely see the goodness of
the Lord: in the land of the living.**

O wait for the Lord; stand firm and he will strengthen
your heart: and wait, I say, for the Lord.

(27)

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said: ‘If you love me, you will keep my
commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will
give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever.
This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot
receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.
You know him, because he abides with you, and he
will be in you.

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In
a little while the world will no longer see me, but you
will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that
day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in
me, and I in you. They who have my commandments
and keep them are those who love me; and those who
love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love
them and reveal myself to them.’ Judas (not Iscariot)
said to him, ‘Lord, how is it that you will reveal
yourself to us, and not to the world?’ Jesus answered
him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my
Father will love them, and we will come to them and
make our home with them. Whoever does not love me
does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is
not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.’

(14.15-24; NRSV)

For the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayers of lament, thanksgiving and intercession

Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The response to the prayers is
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with our Parish Prayer
**Creator Spirit, God beyond our knowing,
your love has been poured into our hearts.
Renew our trust in you,
and shape our lives to the call of Jesus,
our crucified and risen Lord.
Make us a people of blessing and hope,
so that neighbours and strangers may be drawn
to the compassion of Christ. Amen.**

The Greeting of Peace

God is love
and those who live in love live in God
and God lives in them.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

CELEBRATING AT THE LORD'S TABLE

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

The priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

**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.**

The Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection. All respond:

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

The prayer calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God. All join in affirming:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven...

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

As this broken bread was one many grains,
which have been gathered together
and made one bread:
**So may your church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

This is the Lord's table, the table of God's kingdom.

Although we are but a few present,
there is a place prepared here
for all who long to return to this table,
for all whose hearts are restless,
and for all who seek God's mercy.

As communion is shared in this place,
let us all offer ourselves
to God's mercy and loving-kindness,
in remembrance that Christ died for us,
that we may abide with him in faith with thanksgiving.

CONTINUING IN THE WAY OF CHRIST

Post-Communion Prayer

We honour you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given;
gather those who are near and those who are far,
we pray, to share this feast together once again
and so finally, to feast at that table
where you reign with all your saints for ever.
**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.**

Blessing and Dismissal

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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Material in this service is taken from
A Prayer Book for Australia (1995), and Common Worship (2000).*