



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

8:00 AM Service Bulletin

The First Half of Lent

Lent



**Please leave this booklet in the basket in the entryway as you leave;
it will be reused throughout the next weeks.**

Welcome to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion, a welcoming and diverse community seeking to walk in the way of Jesus and to reveal Christ's reconciling love in our city, nation, and world.

Children are especially welcome at Holy Communion, wiggles, noises, and all. There is a soft space at the back of the church, where little ones may play quietly during the service. Our chapel is a good place to bring a crying infant, with windows into the church and speakers broadcasting the sound from the service.

If you have any questions about the liturgy, the location of restrooms, or anything else – feel free to ask a neighbor.

Liturgical Changes During Lent

- 1) **Purple frontal color and matching vestments.** The altar and clergy wear purple, the liturgical color that symbolizes both the pain of the cross and royalty. It symbolizes the long walk to Calvary and our hope of Easter.
- 2) **No flowers:** During Lent we forego the use of flowers in the church, in keeping with the mood of simplicity, penitence, and reflection.
- 3) **Penitential Order:** During Lent, we move the confession of sins to the front of the service, instead of during the prayers of the people. We also include a recitation of the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue, to emphasize the posture of penitence.
- 4) **No Alleluias in Lent:** the word "Alleluia" is neither sung nor spoken during Lent, except at a funeral service. As we catch ourselves where we are accustomed to using this word, we are reminded of the solemnity of the season.
- 5) **Eucharistic Prayer B:** We are accustomed to "Enriching our Worship," a more modern version of the Eucharistic prayer which balances gender pronouns for God. Prayer B, which can be found on page 367 of the Book of Common Prayer emphasizes our union with Christ in his sacrifice.

Gathering

We gather in silence. Please stand as the ministers enter.

A Penitential Order

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

God's mercy endures for ever.

The Decalogue *Please continue to stand.*

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All are invited to kneel as they are able, or alternatively to sit.

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.

Kyrie *Said by all, kneeling.*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Ministry of the Word

The Collect of the Day

see insert

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

*The presider prays the prayer of the day. The People respond: **Amen.***

1st Lesson *Please be seated*

see insert

After the Lesson the Reader says:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm *We read the psalm responsively, the congregation reading the verses in bold.*

see insert

2nd Lesson

see insert

After the Lesson the Reader says:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel *Please stand as the Gospel reader and acolyte process to the middle of the assembly.*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Lesson the Gospeller says:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon *Please be seated at the invitation of the Preacher.*

The Nicene Creed *Please stand*

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

**by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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 of the People *Please stand or kneel*

The Leader and People pray responsively

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for George Wayne, our Bishop; for the church in El Salvador; for *[a church or ministry in the diocesan cycle of prayer]*; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Donald, our president, Eric our Governor, the members of Congress, the Supreme Court, and all who are in authority; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this City of St. Louis, for every city and community and those who live in them; and for [those] celebrating a birthday this week; let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died [*especially...*] in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To you, O Lord our God.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace *please stand*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

You are invited to greet those around you by saying "Peace be with you" or simply "Peace."

Welcome and Announcements *please be seated for a few brief announcements*

Presentation of the Offering

All things come of thee, O Lord.

And of thine own have we given thee.

The Holy Communion

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.

The presider offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ. 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 presider gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father:

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The presider concludes with prayer for the coming of God's reign.

All honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

grant us peace.

Administration of the Sacrament

You are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, the consecrated bread and wine. If you would rather receive a blessing, please come forward to the altar rail during communion and cross your arms across your chest. Gluten free wafers are available, on request, from the minister.

Post Communion Prayer *please kneel or stand*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing *The people stand or kneel as the presider proclaims the final blessing.*

Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal: *our worship has ended, our service in the world continues*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

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