

# Order of Service for Holy Communion or Eucharist

## The Invocation

The candles either side of the cross on the altar are lit as the celebrant says...

*Celebrant: Let us build Gods temple in prayer and in praise.*

*Congregation: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

-or-

*Congregation: In the name of Christ.*

*Amen*

## The Asperges

The leader sprinkles the altar with the aspergill and says...

*Leader: May the Lord purify me that I may worthily perform His service.*

*With the Lord to strengthen me do I repel all evil from this His Holy place and Sanctuary.*

## The Preparation

We prepare ourselves, by asking God to forgive us...

*Congregation: Almighty God,*

*To you all hearts are open,*

*And from you no secrets are hid,*

*Clean the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and praise and magnify your Holy Name,*

*Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*Assistant: Jesus said: I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger, and he who believes in me shall never thirst.*

*Leader: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive all our sins and clean us from all unrighteousness; therefore let us confess our sins before Almighty God.*

*Congregation: 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 life renewed,  
To the Glory of your Name. Amen

## The Kyries

Leader: Lord Have mercy on us.  
Congregation Christ have mercy on us  
Leader: Lord Have mercy on us.

## The Absolution

Leader: The Lord in His loving-kindness look upon you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord absolve you from all your sins and grant you the grace and comfort  
of His Holy Spirit.  
For Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners:  
Hear then Jesus' words of Grace: Your sins are forgiven.

Congregation: Amen. Thanks be to God.

## The Censing

Incense is burned in the sanctuary and around the altar to purge away evil. The  
leader lights the incense saying:

Leader: Be blessed in honour of Him in whose service you will be burned.  
An introit is sung by the choir and/or congregation whilst the censing is  
performed.

An assistant announces the Old Testament lesson or epistle.  
The Old Testament reading or epistle is read

## Glory to God

The Glory to God is said (or sung)  
Congregation: *Glory to God in the Highest,*

The Cross Denominational Mission  
Please use these orders of service freely.

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

A Hymn is sung

## The Gospel

The celebrant announces the Gospel reading

Congregation: *Glory to Christ our saviour.*

The Gospel is read.

Leader: *This is the Good News, the Gospel of Christ.*

Congregation: *Praise to Christ our Lord.*

A sermon is preached, or Homily given.

(Prayers of intercession may be said here)

## The Lords Prayer

Congregation: *Our Father, who is in Heaven  
Hallowed be your Name, Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today 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 the kingdom the power and glory are Yours,  
Now and for ever... Amen

## The Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

The peace should be exchanged with every person present.

## The Creed

Leader: Let us stand and affirm our faith...

Congregation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of Heaven and earth,

I believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and  
born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died,  
And was buried. He descended into the dead.

On the third day he arose again,  
And was ascended into heaven

Where he sits at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church  
The communion of saints, the resurrection of the body  
And of life everlasting... Amen

A Hymn is sung.

## The Sursum Corda

Leader: Lift up your hearts

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is very right and our bounden duty, that we, at all times and in all places give thanks to you O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of Heaven, we worship your holy name, evermore praising you as we say...

## The Sanctus

Congregation: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Glory be to you O Lord Most high.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the Highest.

Leader: We praise you Lord God,  
King of the universe, through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Who, on the night he was betrayed,  
Took bread, gave thanks, blessed and broke it,  
Gave it to his disciples saying,  
This is my body given for you,  
Do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way he took wine, gave thanks and gave it to them saying:  
Drink this all of you; this is the blood of the new covenant poured out for  
you and for many,  
For the forgiveness of sins.  
For as often as you eat this bread and drink this wine  
You proclaim the Lords death until He comes.

Congregation: Christ has died  
Christ has risen  
Christ will come again

## Communion

Leader: Therefore Father as he has commanded us,  
We do this in remembrance of him, and we ask you  
to accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

**Congregation:** Grant that by the power of the Holy Spirit we who receive your gifts of bread and wine may share in the body and blood of Christ.

**Leader:** Make us to be one body with him.

**Congregation:** May we receive these gifts in faith and love, and may we receive Christ our saviour again in our hearts and may together grow up in all things to Him who is above all other; through Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours O Father Almighty, world without end.  
Amen

(the celebrant prays in silence before the altar, preparing himself and asking that he be worthy to serve the Lord in this way)

**Leader:** According to the Holy Institution, example and command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and for a memorial of Him, we do this:

Who on the night that he was betrayed, took bread, (the celebrant takes and breaks bread)

Gave thanks, broke it and said, take, eat; this is my body broken for you; do this in remembrance of me.

(the celebrant makes the sign of the cross three times with the broken bread over the chalice, then lays the broken bread on the altar. The chancel bell is rung three times.)

In the same way he took wine  
(the celebrant raises the chalice)

Saying this wine is the new covenant in my blood; do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

(the celebrant places the chalice on the altar, bows his head and the chancel bell is rung three times)

The celebrant and the leader communes and then administers communion with the other assistants.

**Assistant:** You that truly and honestly repent of your sins and are resolved to follow Christ, draw near with faith, and share this sacrament for the increase of grace.

The celebrant and leader with the assistants administer the bread and wine to the people saying quietly to each:

Take eat; this is the body of Christ broken for you; do this in remembrance of him.

This cup is the wine of the new covenant by Christ's blood shed for the

remission of sins; drink of Gods love.

(The celebrant disposes of the remaining elements with reverence)

## The Thanksgiving

Congregation: *O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; we give to you all glory, thanks, and praise for your great goodness, in that you have permitted us to make this memorial of your son our saviour and his sacrifice on the cross; and have received us into communion with him; fed us at your table with this spiritual food. We humbly ask you to accept us as we dedicate ourselves to you again, and assist us with your grace, that we may continue in holy fellowship, and live our lives to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

A hymn is sung

## The Nunc Dimittis

Leader: *Lord, now let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled.*  
Congregation: *for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of every people,*  
Leader: *A light to reveal you to the nations*  
Congregation: *and the glory of all your people.*

The altar candles are extinguished.

## The Gloria

Congregation: *Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and evermore shall be. World without end. Amen.*

### Notes;

This is one of the forms of service we use. We welcome anyone to use it and change it as they require to suit their circumstances. As we use it, we term our leader Pastor. The parts said by the assistant are said by our Deacon but can be said by the leader. We use the term celebrant to mean the one who is 'presiding' over the service and actually breaking the bread. When there is a celebrant as well as the leader, the leader says the words while the celebrant does the actions. We believe in congregation involvement and actively encourage participation, in reading lessons, helping administer the sacrament, in leading prayers.

The Cross Denominational Mission  
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Unitarian and churches that feel uncomfortable with the Trinitarian aspects of this service should substitute 'In the name of Christ' or similar terms where appropriate.

As always, feel free to adjust this service to suit your needs.