



# HOLY COMMUNION

ORDER ONE

COMMON WORSHIP FOR EASTER IN  
THE PARISH OF BENGEO, HERTFORD

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## Easter

Dizzy with joy, the Easter morning  
sun trembles in the heavens;  
the tacky buds unclenched, release  
an appropriate festschrift of leaves.

Unsuspected, in their microworld  
tiny cells teem, crossplay,  
rich networks of twisted strings  
interlace, relate to the concord

of history rebegun. A starling mimics  
*Bravura*, wood-pigeons whoop it up,  
the orchestra purrs, tunes into  
a master craftsman. Life *da capo*,

as riding our whirling earth-ship  
we zip around the sun;  
umpteens billion miles apart  
stars both giant and dwarf

are suns that tug their planets,  
constellate, take their partners  
to dance the zillionhanded reel,  
pinwheel outwards to eternity.

Glimpsing infinities of perfection,  
awestruck, half-enlightened man  
refracts the marvel, magnifies  
an all-inclusive Easter thought.

*Micheal O'Siadhail*

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## *The Gathering*

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The president may say*

In the name of the Father,  
And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit.

*All*    **Amen.**

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All*    **and also with you.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

## Prayers of Penitence

Invitation to Confession

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.  
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil  
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All*    **Lord, have mercy.**

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Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins.  
Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread.  
Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*cf Psalm 51*

*The president says*

May the God of love and power  
forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

*The Gloria may be sung. Please stand.*

Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise,  
of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.  
We worship you, to you our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
you bore for us the weight of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, your glorious victory won,  
receive our prayer, grant us your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, you only are the Lord,  
at God's right hand in majesty most high:  
who with the Spirit worshipped and adored:  
with all the heavenly host we glorify.

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## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

*The Collect is said, and all respond*

All **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Reading

*[Please sit]*

*At the end of the reading the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*A hymn may be sung. Music may be played.*

### Gospel Reading

*[Please stand]*

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;  
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

All **Alleluia.** *cf Revelation 1.17,18*

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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Sermon

Prayers of Intercession

*These responses may be used*

*All* We pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

*And at the end*

*All* God of mercy,  
**you know us and love us  
and hear our prayer:  
keep us in the eternal fellowship of  
Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Amen.**

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

The Peace

The risen Christ came  
and stood among his disciples  
and said, 'Peace be with you.'  
Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.  
Alleluia. *cf John 20.19*

*All* The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

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Preparation of the Table  
Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

*A hymn may be sung.*

The Eucharistic Prayer

*All*           The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*All*           Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

*All*           Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;  
through him you have created all things  
from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us  
from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman  
and to die upon the cross;

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you raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit,  
and made us a people for your own possession.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you  
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.  
For he is the true paschal lamb  
who was offered for us,  
and has taken away the sin of the world.  
By his death he has destroyed death,  
and by his rising to life again  
he has restored to us everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and *saying*:

*All*

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,  
Holy is the Lord God almighty!  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,  
Holy is the Lord God almighty!  
Who was and is, and is to come;  
holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example  
and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

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who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you 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.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, 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, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

*All*

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,

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inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

*All*      **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in God's new creation,  
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has  
taught us

*All*      **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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

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Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

*All*

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

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 peace.**

Giving of Communion

*The president says the invitation to communion*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

*All*

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

The body of Christ.

The blood of Christ.

*During the distribution hymns may be sung.*

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Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept.  
The Post Communion prayer is said.*

*The Dismissal*

*A hymn may be sung.*

Blessing

The God of peace,  
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
through the blood of the eternal covenant,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will,  
working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All*

**Amen.**

*A minister says*

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*All*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

*The ministers and people depart.*





