THE LORD'S SUPPER

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CNI.
AFGHAN WAR MEMORIAL
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CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA
UNITY • WITNESS • SERVICE

Church of North India

CHURCH OF NORTH INDIA

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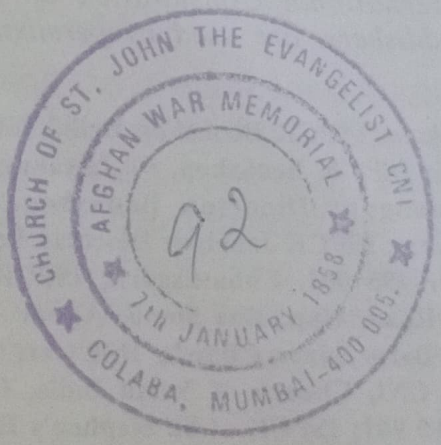

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An Order for
The Lord's Supper
or
The Holy Eucharist

General Notes

1. The Setting and Conduct of Worship

Presbyters should bear in mind the general considerations concerning the outward setting and conduct of worship which are given in the Introductory Notes to this book (page xiii). In particular, they are encouraged (in consultation with their congregation) to ensure that the setting is truly indigenous. This will be done by using the resources of their local culture in arranging and equipping the church or meeting-place for the service.

When necessary, they should indicate to their people appropriate postures to adopt (standing, sitting or kneeling) at different points in the service.

2. Rubrics and other Notes

The notes (rubrics) in *italic* type, together with the further explanations of different Sections given below, should be carefully studied. They are intended to help the celebrant and to indicate where alternatives are offered.

In all such notes, wherever the word "may" occurs, it means that it is for the celebrant to decide whether or not to do what is there suggested.

Notes which state that words are to be 'said' should be understood to include 'or sung' when this is appropriate, and vice versa.

3. Lay participation in the Service

The *Constitution of the C.N.I.* (Chapter 1, Section V.B. 17) states clearly that "It shall be the rule of order in the Church of North India that the celebration of the Holy Communion shall be entrusted only to those who have by ordination received authority therein."

Subject to any rulings by the diocesan bishop, it is appropriate for the presbyter in charge to invite members of the laity to read the Scriptures or lead the Intercession, and also to preach or to help in the administration of the Sacrament. The parts of the service which must be taken by a presbyter are indicated in the service by the use of the word "Presbyter". Where the word "Minister" is used, this may be a lay person, if authorized by the bishop.

4. The Communion of the Sick

For giving Communion to the sick, see Part 4 of the Ministry to the Sick (page 383).

5. A Service consisting of "The Proclamation of the Word and the Prayers", not followed by Holy Communion

When there is no Communion, the first part of this Order (Sections 1-20) may be used by itself. In this case it is suggested that Sections 17-20 should be transferred to an earlier position after Section 4. Such a service might end with the Lord's Prayer, a hymn (during which the offerings of the people may be collected and presented), and "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ..."

Explanatory Notes on the Service

Sections 6 and 44 (*Prayer in the minister's own words*). Free prayer is a spiritual gift which should find a place in the Lord's Supper. However, when it is offered it should be kept reasonably brief, bearing in mind the balance of the service as a whole.

Section 7 (the *Collect*). The Collects bring to mind in an ordered sequence various aspects of the Christian faith and Christian life, focussing particularly on God's great acts of redemption in the Incarnation (Christmas), the Cross and Resurrection (Good Friday-Easter) and the Giving of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost).

Sections 8, 10 and 12 (the *Scripture Readings*). Provision is made for three Readings: one from the Old Testament, one from the Epistles, the Acts of the Apostles or Revelation, and one from the Gospels. At the discretion of the Minister, however, it will be sufficient to have only two Readings—either one from the Old Testament and one from the New, or if the Old Testament has been read at a service immediately before the Lord's Supper, then both from the New Testament. If there is only one Reading from the New Testament, it is recommended that in accordance with ancient tradition the Reading should be from the Gospels.

Before each Scripture reading there may be said: "Hear the Word of God, as it is written in the Book of (*or* Letter of, *or* Gospel of) ..., the ... chapter, beginning at the ... verse."

Or simply, "The Book of (*or* Letter of, *or* Gospel of) ..., the ... chapter, beginning at the ... verse."

At end of the Scripture Readings the following may be said:

Reader May the Lord add his blessing to the reading of his word.

All **And to his name be the glory and the praise.**

Section 13 (the *Sermon*). A sermon should be preached on Sundays and on Greater Festivals and on other appropriate occasions; but it is not necessary at every service on weekdays.

Section 16A and B (the *Intercession*). Two alternative forms of Intercession are provided in the service, but other forms or words may be used by the minister.

In using 16(A) other subjects for prayer may be introduced at appropriate points to meet local needs.

Form 16(B) leaves more room for variation, but the subjects to be prayed for should be thought out before the service. The suggestions given in smaller type, if used, should be filled out or modified according to circumstances. In particular, there is no need for the leader to mention subjects for prayer in every section of this intercession, but only where this is suitable. Alternatively, the prayers in ordinary type may follow one another as a continuous intercession with or without "Lord, in your mercy Hear our prayer."

Prayer requests or biddings may also precede either of the forms of the Intercession (A or B). Or requests for prayer may be announced by the minister at the time of the Notices.

The Intercession may take the form of a Group Prayer Meeting in which, led by the Spirit, any member of the congregation may bring special needs before God in brief spoken prayer. Care should be taken that this form of intercession is kept flexible, fresh and natural in its language and expression. The minister may bring it to a close with a suitable Collect or prayer.

Sections 17-20 (the *Confession* of sin). This part of the Service may be transferred to follow Section 4.

Section 31 (in the *Thanksgiving*). The first five lines "Therefore we join...and say" may be said or sung by the

presbyter alone, while the congregation joins in at the words "Holy, holy, holy..."

Section 32 (in the *Thanksgiving*). At the words "took bread", the presbyter may take the paten (plate) with the bread into his/her hands, and similarly the cup at the words "took the cup".

Section 36 (the *Silence* after the Lord's Prayer). This may be used as a time of preparation for receiving the Sacrament. The Prayer of Humble Access (Section 37) may be said silently, if it is not used corporately.

Section 39 (*Methods of administering the consecrated Bread and Wine*). The method of administering the Sacrament will be according to local custom. Thus

(a) the presbyter and assisting ministers may give the consecrated bread and wine to the people who come forward and stand or kneel near the Table; or

(b) the elders or lay deacons may distribute the consecrated bread and wine to the people in their places; or

(c) the people may come forward and receive the consecrated bread and wine "by Tables", each "Table" being dismissed with a brief word of encouragement, exhortation or blessing.

On Diocesan and Synodical Occasions the method of administration will be decided in advance and announced to the people by the presiding presbyter.

Sections 39-40 (the *Communion*). If it becomes necessary for the presbyter to consecrate additional bread or wine, this should be done as provided in Section 48 (page 140).

Section 41 (*the consumption of any of the consecrated elements that remain, and cleansing the vessels*). Here two actions are involved: (a) consuming what remains of the consecrated bread and wine; and (b) in some traditions, cleansing the vessels. While it may be desirable that the

congregation should be visually assured that the former has taken place, it is unnecessary and undesirable for the latter to be a public ceremony seen by the congregation.

On occasions when those of formerly differing church traditions join together in celebrating the Lord's Supper, and especially at Synodical or Diocesan services, it is greatly to be preferred that the consuming of any remaining consecrated bread or wine should take place at the end of the administration rather than after the service. In this way the unity of the Church of North India may be built up and unnecessary scruples may be avoided.

For the same reason the cleansing of the vessels should be done reverently but without ostentation, in order not to distract the worshippers. It may be quietly done by the assisting ministers at a side-table.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Proclamation of the Word and the Prayers

The Preparation

The Ministry of the Word

The Intercession

The Confession of Sin

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Thanksgiving

The Communion: the Breaking of the Bread and the Sharing of the Bread and Wine

After Communion

The Lord's Supper

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD AND THE PRAYERS

THE PREPARATION

Section

1 *At the beginning of the Service the minister may give a Call to Worship (see Section 47).*

2 *Before or after this a hymn, a canticle or a psalm may be said or sung.*

3 *The minister greets the people, saying*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *2 Cor. 13.14*

All **And also with you.**

Or,

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

4 *The minister and people say together*

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
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.

5 *All sing or say*

Glory to God in the highest,
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.

Or, the Kyries

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

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

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

Or, the Trisagion, thrice repeated

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

6 *The minister prays in his/her own words*

7 *The minister may then pray in the words of the Collect of the Day.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

8 *A Reading from the Old Testament may be read. At the end there may be said*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept for reflection.

9 *A psalm may be said.*

10 *The Epistle. At the end there may be said*

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Silence may be kept for reflection.

11 *A Canticle, a hymn or a psalm may be sung or said.*

12 *The Gospel. When it is announced there may be said*

All **Glory to you, Christ Jesus.**

At the end the reader may say

This is the Gospel of Christ.
All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus.**

Silence may be kept for reflection.

13 *The Sermon, beginning with a short invocation.*

14 *The Nicene Creed is said or sung, at least on Sundays and greater Festivals.*

All **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,
one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of 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 worshipped 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.

Or, in place of the Nicene Creed, the Apostles' Creed may be said or sung.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the
Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated 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 forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Or, a suitable canticle, hymn or lyric, affirming the faith of the Church, may be sung.

15 *Brief announcements may be given now or at any other convenient time.*

THE INTERCESSION

16 *One or other of the following forms is used; or intercession may be offered in one of the forms mentioned in the Note on Section 16 (page 102).*

(A)

Minister In our intercession let us join our prayer for the whole human family with the unceasing prayer of Christ the Lord.

Heavenly Father, we pray for justice and peace in the whole world, and for fulness of life for everyone;
Lord, in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For all who live in this place (*or* city, town, village); for the removal of all that divides us from each other, and for true harmony in our country;
Lord, in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For all engaged in agriculture, industry and commerce, for all workers skilled and unskilled, and for all those who defend our country;
Lord, in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For teachers and students, scientists, artists and writers, and for all who influence the minds and hearts of others;
Lord, in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For those who are suffering, the poor and hungry, the destitute and oppressed, the unemployed, the sick and the dying, and for all who help them;
Lord, in your mercy
All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For all to whom authority is entrusted in this and other countries, and especially for our President, the Prime Minister, the Governor and

Chief Minister of this State, and for all who have power over other people;
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For the unity of all Christian people, and for their witness and service in the world;
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister For your whole Church in our country; for its Councils and leaders, especially for ..... our Moderator, ... Moderator of the Church of South India and ..... Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church, for ..... our Bishop, for ..... our presbyter and for all other ministers of your Church, that they may be faithful in their ministry;
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Minister That with all your people who have faithfully served you in this life, we also may share in the eternal joy of your kingdom;
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

All **Hasten, heavenly Father,**
the coming of your kingdom,
and grant these petitions
which we offer in the name of your Son,
our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

(B)

Or, in place of the above intercession, the following may be used.

Minister Let us thank God for his goodness, and let us pray for the world and for the Church.

* Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have promised through your Son, Jesus Christ, to hear us when we pray in faith.

We give you thanks for ...

We pray for
a right attitude to the created world ...
the nations of the world ...
our own nation ...
(pray for any particular need in society ...)

Silence may be kept

Give wisdom to the leaders of the nations, especially to our President, the Prime Minister, the Governor and Chief Minister of this State, and to all in authority under them; direct this nation and all nations in the ways of justice and peace; that we may all honour one another and seek the common good.
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for ...

We pray for
your whole Church in our country and throughout the world ...
especially the Church of North India:
for its Councils, leaders and ministers,
especially for ..... our Moderator,
..... Moderator of the Church of South India,
..... Metropolitan of the Mar Thoma Church;
for ..... our Bishop; for ..... our presbyter;
for the unity of all Christians
(pray for any particular work or need in the Church ...)

Silence may be kept

Strengthen your Church to carry forward the work of Christ; that we and all who confess his name may unite in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for ...

We pray for
our neighbours ...
those with whom we work ...
our families and friends ...
(*pray for particular persons* ...)

Silence may be kept

Give grace to us, our families and friends, our neighbours and those with whom we work; that we may serve you in one another, and love each other as you love us.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for
the hungry and destitute ...
the oppressed and their oppressors...
the unemployed ...
the sick and the dying ...
those without hope ...

We give you thanks and pray for
all those who help them ...

Silence may be kept

Strengthen and uphold all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit; give them courage and

hope in their time of need; and lead them to know the joy of your presence.
Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

We remember before you
your servants departed this life, especially...

Silence may be kept

We commend all to your unfailing love, that in them your will may be fulfilled; and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age; praying that we may share with them in your eternal kingdom.

Hear us, heavenly Father,

All **And accept these prayers**
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

17 *The minister may read the Summary of the Law*

Beloved, our Lord Jesus Christ said: The Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. The second is this: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

18 *The minister says*

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us therefore confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved by God's grace to keep his commandments and to live in love and peace with all people.

19 *After a short silence the presbyter and people say*

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you and against one another
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 newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

20 *The presbyter says*

Almighty God, who forgives all who forgive one another and truly repent of their sins, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

The presbyter may say 'us' and 'our' in place of 'you' and your'.

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

21 *If the Scripture Warrant is to be used, it is read now, or after Section 27.*

Presbyter Beloved in the Lord, let us attend to the words of institution of this Holy Sacrament, as they are given by Saint Paul in the first Epistle to the Corinthians:

I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Cor. 11.23-26

THE PEACE

22 *The presbyter says*

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

1 Cor. 12.27,13; Rom. 14.19

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

23 *The peace may be given here. The manner of giving the peace is according to custom. The people also may greet one another.*

THE PREPARATION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

24 *A lyric or hymn may be sung, and the offerings of the people may be collected and presented.*

25 *The bread and wine are brought forward and placed on the Table or, where it is the custom, unveiled.*

26 *The presbyter says*

Let us present these offerings, and with them ourselves, for the service of the Divine Majesty.

27 All **All things come from you,**
and of your own do we give you,
Almighty God, creator of the world.
We ask you to accept these *(offerings and) gifts of bread and wine
for the glory of your name
and the good of your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE THANKSGIVING

28 *The presbyter says*

The Lord is here.
All **His Spirit is with us.**

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

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

29 Presbyter It is not only right,
it is our duty and our joy,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
always and everywhere to offer you

---

* *Omit these words if there is no offering other than bread and wine.*

thanks and praise through Jesus Christ,
your only Son, our Lord;

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

Through him you enlighten every one
who comes into the world,
and from age to age have raised up
prophets and wise men and women
to point the way to you;

Through him you have freed us
from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born as man,
to die upon the cross,
and to rise again for us;

Through him you give your holy
and life-giving Spirit,
to make us your children
and the first-fruits of your new creation.

30 *When an additional special thanksgiving is provided for the season of the Christian Year or for some other special occasion, it follows here (see Section 47, page 125).*

31 All **Therefore we join our praises to the never-ending song**
of saints and angels before your throne,
we proclaim the glory of your name, and say:
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Presbyter 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 Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of him who died for us and rose again;

32* For in the same night that he was betrayed,
he took bread;
and after giving you thanks, he broke it,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"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 having given you thanks,
he gave it to them, and said:
"Drink this, all of you;
for 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."

33 Therefore, heavenly Father,
in remembrance of him
we set apart this bread and this cup;
we celebrate and proclaim his perfect sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross,
his resurrection from the dead,
and his ascension into heaven;
and we look for his coming in glory.

All **Christ has died;**
Christ is risen;
Christ shall come again.

**When the Scripture Warrant (Section 21) has already been read, Section 32 may be omitted.*

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

With him, and in him, and through him,
by the power 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 COMMUNION
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

34 *The presbyter breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

We break this bread that we may share in the body of Christ.

All **We are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

35 *The presbyter may take the cup into his/her hands in the sight of the people and say*

The cup which we bless is a sharing of the blood of Christ.

All **His life is in us and we live in him.**

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

All **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not bring us to the time of trial,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Silence

37 *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
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.

One or both of the following may be said or sung:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

38 *The presbyter says*

Draw near in faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Remember that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

39 *The presbyters and people receive the consecrated bread and wine.*

40 *The following words of administration may be used**

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you.
The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you.

The communicant may reply each time: **Amen.**

**Alternative words of administration which may be used:*

(1) The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life.

with or without these words:

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

and

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul unto everlasting life.

with or without these words:

Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

(2) The body of Christ, the Bread of life.
The blood of Christ, the true Vine.

(3) Take, eat, this is the body of Christ which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of him.
This cup is the new covenant in the blood of Christ, which is shed for many unto remission of sins; drink, all of you, of it.

41 *Any consecrated bread or wine which is not required for purposes of communion is consumed at the end of the administration or after the Blessing.*

AFTER COMMUNION

42 *A Sentence (Section 47) may be said by the presbyter. Silence may be kept.*

43 Presbyter Having now with faith received this holy sacrament, let us give thanks to God.

44 *The presbyter may pray in his/her own words.*

One of the following is then said by all.

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you ourselves
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out
in the power of your Spirit
to live and work
to your praise and glory. Amen.

Or

Heavenly Father,
you have fed us with the spiritual food
of the most precious body and blood
of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.
You have assured us,
in these holy Mysteries,
of your favour and goodness towards us,
and that we are living members of the
body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
For these great benefits we thank you,
and in union with your Son
we offer you ourselves
as a living sacrifice.

And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, Father, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

45 *The presbyter gives this or the appropriate blessing (Section 47).*

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.

All **Amen.**

Presbyter Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The ministers and people leave and greet each other.

47 SENTENCES, THANKSGIVINGS AND BLESSINGS FOR THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN YEAR OR SOME OTHER SPECIAL OCCASIONS*

1. SEASONAL

1 *ADVENT*

Call to Worship

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together. *Is. 40.5*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks that the day of deliverance has dawned; and through him you will make all things new, as he comes in power and triumph to judge the world.

After Communion

Our Lord says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! *Rev. 22.20*

Blessing

May the light of Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path;
And the blessing...

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* Additional Sentences, Thanksgivings and Blessings other than those given here will be found in the booklet *Alternative and Additional Sentences, Thanksgivings and Blessings for The Lord's Supper, Section 47* (ISPCK).

2 *CHRISTMAS*

Call to Worship

A child has been born for us, a son given to us;
O come let us adore him. Alleluia.
Isaiah 9.6; Ps. 95.6

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks that by the power of the Holy Spirit he took our nature upon him and was born of the Virgin Mary, that being himself without sin he might make us clean from all sin.

After Communion

The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
John 6.33

Blessing

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom;
And the blessing...

3 *EPIPHANY*

Call to Worship

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. *Titus 2.11*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks, because in coming to dwell among us as man, he revealed the radiance of your glory, and brought us out of darkness into his own marvellous light.

After Communion

God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. *2 Cor. 4.6*

Blessing

May the light of Christ the Lord shine in your hearts and minds that you may see his glory;
And the blessing…

4 *THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS OF LENT*

Call to Worship

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him. *Daniel 9.9*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks that being tempted in all things as we are, he remained sinless, that by his power we also might overcome sin.

After Communion

Jesus said, If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. *Mark 8.34*

Blessing

Christ the Lord give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross and follow him;
And the blessing…

5 *THE LAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE EASTER*

(except for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve)

Call to Worship

Christ Jesus being found in human form, humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. *Phil. 2.8*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks, because for our salvation he bore our sin in his own body on the cross; that, being lifted up from the earth, he might draw all people to himself.

After Communion

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. *1 Cor. 11.26*

Blessing

May Christ the Saviour draw you to himself, so that in him you find a sure ground for faith and hope;
And the blessing...

6 *SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER (PALM SUNDAY)*

Call to Worship

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven! *Luke 19.38*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because he bore our sins in his own body on the cross, and broke the power of sin and death.

After Communion

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
1 Cor. 11.26

Blessing

May Christ the Saviour draw you to himself, so that in him you find a sure ground for faith and hope;
And the blessing...

7 *MAUNDY THURSDAY*

Call to Worship

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.
John 13.34

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because on this night he gave to his disciples this memorial of his redeeming death and the assurance of his presence in this holy sacrament.

After Communion

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.
Matthew 20.28

Blessing

May Christ the Saviour draw you to himself, so that you may find in him a sure ground for faith and hope;
And the blessing...

8 *GOOD FRIDAY*

Call to Worship

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.
Romans 5.8

Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.
Phil. 2.8

Jesus said, The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many. *Mark 10.45*

9 *EASTER EVE*

Call to Worship

All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death; so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. *Rom. 6.3,4*

Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; and he will give you the desires of your heart. *Psalm 37.7,4*

10 *EASTER DAY TO EASTER 1*

Call to Worship

Christ the Lord is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia! *Luke 24.34*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks for his glorious resurrection. For by his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored to us eternal life.

After Communion

Jesus said: Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day. *John 6.54*

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
And the blessing...

11 *EASTER SEASON*

Call to Worship

Christ died, and behold he is alive for evermore. Alleluia! *Rev. 1.18*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because through him you have given us eternal life, and delivered us from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

After Communion

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia! *Luke 24.35*

Blessing

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
And the blessing...

12 *ASCENSION*

Call to Worship

Since we have a great high priest, Jesus, the Son of God, let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace. *Heb. 4.14,16*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks, because in his risen body he appeared to his disciples and in their sight was taken into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, there we might also be.

After Communion

God has highly exalted his Son, and given him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend. *Phil. 2.9,10*

Blessing

Christ our Lord make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory;
And the blessing...

13 *PENTECOST*

Call to Worship

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. *Rom. 5.5*

After Communion

The Spirit we have received is not a spirit of slavery leading us back into a life of fear, but

a spirit that makes us children, enabling us to cry 'Abba Father!' *Rom. 8.15*

Blessing

May the Holy Spirit breathe new life into you and set you on fire with the love of God;
And the blessing...

14 *TRINITY SUNDAY* (1st Sunday after Pentecost)

Call to Worship

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come. *Rev. 4.8*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks, because you have revealed your glory in the glory of your only Son and of the Holy Spirit; three persons equal in majesty, infinite in splendour, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be worshipped and adored.

After Communion

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. *1 Jn. 4.16*

Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, and defend you at all times;
And the blessing...

15 *FESTIVALS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*

Call to Worship

Mary said, Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.
Luke 1.38

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because you chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

After Communion

God sent his Son, born of a woman, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Gal. 4.4,5

Blessing

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and gentleness;
And the blessing...

16 *APOSTLES AND EVANGELISTS*

Call to Worship

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the corner stone.

Eph. 2.19-20

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because through him you chose your servant ..... to be an Apostle (and/*or* Evangelist), that by his ministry your chosen people might be gathered in from every nation, and your Church instructed in the way that leads to eternal life.

After Communion

Jesus said: Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. *John 20.21*

Blessing

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith
and hope and love;
And the blessing...

17 *MARTYRS*

Call to Worship

These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
Rev. 7.14

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because you have brought your martyrs in triumph, through great tribulation, to serve you day and night in your presence with everlasting joy.

After Communion

Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. *Rev. 2.10*

Blessing

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith
and hope and love;
And the blessing...

18 *SAINTS' DAYS*

Call to Worship

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus.
Hebrews 12.1,2

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks because in your saints you have given us an example of obedience and in their eternal joy a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling.

After Communion

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Matthew 5.6

or Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Matthew 5.8

Blessing

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love:
And the blessing…

19 *COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED*

Call to Worship

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labours. *Rev. 14.13*

Thanksgiving

And now we give you thanks that through the mighty resurrection of Christ our Lord we can rejoice in the sure hope of eternal life.

After Communion

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

John 11.25,26

2. GENERAL

Call to Worship

It is in the Call to Worship in particular that the presbyter is encouraged to choose any suitable sentence from the scripture readings of the day or from any other part of Holy Scripture. The following are only a few of such suitable sentences.

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! *Ps. 95.6*

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts. *Ps. 96.8*

Worship the Lord in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth. *Ps. 96.9*

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. *Ps. 118.24*

O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy. *Ps. 43.3,4*

Surely the Lord is in this place. This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. *Gen. 28.16-17*

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. *Isaiah 6.3*

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. *Isaiah 55.6*

The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him! *Hab. 2.20*

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. *John 4.24*

Hear what the Spirit of Jesus says: Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.
Rev. 3.20

After Communion

The scripture readings of the day may suggest an appropriate sentence to use at this point in the service. If not, the presbyter may choose any suitable sentence, or else use one of the following:

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.
John 6.35

Jesus said: I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever. *John 6.51*

Jesus said: Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them.
John 6.56

To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God. *John 1.12*

Jesus said: Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. *John 12.26*

Jesus said: 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. *John 14.23*

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. *John 15.5*

I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart. *Psalm 40.8*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? *Ps. 27.1*

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. *Ps. 119.105*

Jesus said: Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. *John 20.21*

Jesus said: Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. *Matthew 6.20,21*

Jesus said: Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. *Matt. 7.21*

Jesus said: Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave. *Matthew 20.26,27*

Where the people receive the Consecrated Bread and Wine by 'Tables', each 'Table' being dismissed by a brief word of encouragement, exhortation or blessing, some of the sentences above may be used at the dismissal of each 'Table' (See the note on Section 39, page 103).

48 CONSECRATION OF ADDITIONAL BREAD OR WINE

If either or both of the consecrated elements are likely to prove insufficient, the presbyter returns to the holy Table and adds more with these words:

> Having given thanks to you, Father, over the bread and the cup, according to the institution of your Son Jesus Christ, who said 'Take, eat; this is my body', we pray that this bread also may be to us his body, and be received in remembrance of him.
>
> Having given thanks to you, Father, over the bread and the cup, according to the institution of your Son Jesus Christ, who said: 'Drink this; this is my blood', we pray that this wine also may be to us his blood, and be received in remembrance of him.

(The basic principle is that of bringing additional bread or wine into the sacramental action by associating them with the already consecrated bread or wine before the supply of the latter has been completely exhausted. For this there is good historical precedent.)

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