

Holy Communion by Extension

Order of service for Communion by Extension
in the Merton Priory Team Ministry

The Gathering

The minister says

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

Amen.

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

Good morning to you all. As many of you know our team ministry is blessed by four priests, who serve us so well: Mark, Alison, Belemo and Duncan. And it is thanks to their ministry that we are able to share a Communion by Extension together this morning. I am not one of those four, even though I stand beside the altar with them and also wear robes I am a Reader, which means I'm not ordained and I can not preside over any of what we call the sacraments in the church, chief among which is the Eucharist that we celebrate this morning. So the bread that we bring today is already consecrated as the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is particularly fitting for us in our team ministry therefore that we are effectively sharing Holy Communion with our brothers and sisters at Holy Trinity, and we remember them in our prayers as they too gather for worship today.

The minister says

Brothers and sisters, in the Gospel of Saint Luke we read:

At supper with his disciples on the night he was betrayed Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

We have come together in our Father's presence to offer him praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive his holy Word, to bring before him the needs of the world and to ask his forgiveness of our sins. In union with those who celebrate the Eucharist at Holy Trinity and St John the Divine this day, we seek God's grace in Holy Communion. For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup in obedience to his command, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

Prayers of Penitence

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, 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.**

The minister says
May almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all
goodness, and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

The minister introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray'

The Collect is said, and all respond

Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

See separate sheet

The Liturgy of the Word

Reading

At the end of the reading

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

**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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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.

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

This response is used

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

And at the end

Merciful Father, accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The minister introduces the Peace

In fellowship with the whole Church of God, with all who have been brought
together by the Holy Spirit to worship on this day, and particularly with our

brothers and sisters at Holy Trinity and St John the Divine who are celebrating the Eucharist, let us rejoice that we are called to be part of the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

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

Thematic Reading

At the lectern or minister's stall the following is read

Luke 24.30-34

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"

Blessing of God for his goodness

The following is said

**Blessed are you,
God of those who hunger and thirst,
for you give us our food in due season.
You nourish us with your word,
which is the bread of life.
You strengthen us with your Spirit,
the new wine of your kingdom.
In Christ you are food for the hungry,
refreshment for the weary.
Blessed are you, our Creator and Redeemer.
Blessed be God for ever.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The minister moves to the Holy Table and says

The Church of God, of which we are members, has taken bread and wine and given thanks over them according to our Lord's command. These holy gifts have been brought to us that we too may share in the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Silence is kept.

The minister says

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The body and blood of Christ.
Amen.

Communion is received in silence

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.

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

The Dismissal

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

The minister says

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