



THE ARLE VALLEY BENEFACTICE



**ORDER TWO
IN
CONTEMPORARY LANGUAGE**

A very warm welcome is given to the many worshippers who are joining with us online. The term '**Spiritual Communion**' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ.

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves. Making a Spiritual Communion is particularly fitting for those who cannot receive the sacrament at the great feasts of the Church, and it fulfils the duty of receiving Holy Communion 'regularly, and especially at the festivals of Christmas, Easter and Whitsun or Pentecost' (Canon B 15).

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen.**

This service was put together as we returned to worship in our church buildings after the lockdown of Covid -19. In the Arle Valley Benefice this was 16 Sundays without gathering from March 22nd, Mothering Sunday to 5th July 2020 inclusive. As singing in church buildings is not allowed, we use music or poetry or silence as desired.

WELCOME

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.

All Amen.

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, 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.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All Amen. Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words ‘Let us pray’ or a more specific bidding. The following or the Collect of the day is said.

Almighty God,

we praise you for the many blessings
you have given to those who worship you
in this house of prayer:

and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you, and,
being filled with the Holy Spirit,

may become a living temple acceptable to you;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All Amen**

Readings

Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

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.

At the end the reader may say

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

The Creed

**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, 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.**

Sermon *Followed by a time of silence or other response.*

Offertory

One of the following or another sentence of Scripture is used.

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works, and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5.16

*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth;
where moth and rust consume, and where thieves
break in and steal: but store up for yourselves
treasures in heaven, where neither rust nor moth
consume, and where thieves do not break in and
steal. Matthew 6.19.*

*All things come from you, and of your own have we
given you. 1 Chronicles 29.14*

*How does God's love abide in anyone who has the
world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need
and yet refuses help? 1 John 3.17.*

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.
The president places the bread and wine on the table.*

Prayers of Intercession *(may be said from the back of church)*

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father,

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

Prayers of Penitence

A minister may read this or another exhortation.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
as we gather at the Lord's table

we must recall the promises and warnings
given to us in the Scriptures.

Let us therefore examine ourselves and repent of our sins.

Let us give thanks to God

for his redemption of the world through his Son Jesus Christ,
and as we remember Christ's death for us,

and receive this pledge of his love,

let us resolve to serve him in holiness and righteousness
all the days of our life.

Invitation to Confession

A minister uses this or a seasonal invitation to confession.

You then, who truly and earnestly repent of your sins,

and are in love and charity with your neighbours,

and intend to lead a new life,

following the commandments of God,

and walking from this day forward in his holy ways:

draw near with faith,

and take this holy sacrament to your comfort;

and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Confession

Either of these forms may be used.

All Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
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 lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.

(or)

In the wilderness we find your grace;
you love us with an everlasting love.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

There is none but you to uphold our cause;
our sin cries out and our guilt is great.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;
restore us and we shall know your joy.
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

The president says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy
has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him:
have mercy on *you*,
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,
and bring *you* to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

(or)

May almighty God have mercy on *you*,
forgive *you your* sins,
and bring *you* to everlasting life.

All Amen.

The Comfortable Words

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says
to all who truly turn to him: Come to me, all who labour and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11.28

God so loved the world that he gave his only-
begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should
not perish but have eternal life. John 3.16.

Hear what Saint Paul says: This saying is true and
worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came
into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what Saint John says: If anyone sins, we
have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the
righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.
1 John 2.1,2

Preface

The president and the people praise God for his goodness.

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 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.

And now we give you thanks

for your blessing on this house of prayer,

where through your grace we offer you the sacrifice of praise

and are built by your Spirit into a temple made without hands,

even the body of your Son Jesus Christ.

(OR)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

always and everywhere to give you thanks,

almighty and eternal Father,

enthroned upon the praises of your people.

We thank you for this house of prayer,

in which you bless your family

as we come to you in pilgrimage.

Here you reveal your presence in sacramental signs

and make us one with you through the unseen bond of grace. Here

you build your temple of living stones

and bring the Church to its full stature

as the body of Christ throughout the world,

to reach its perfection at last

in the heavenly city,

which is the vision of your peace.

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 Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Humble Access

We say one of these prayers together

Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.

All Amen.

(or)

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 may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

All Amen.

The Prayer of Consecration

The president, standing at the table, says the Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for
the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread
and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;

Here the president takes the paten.

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Here the president breaks the bread.

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;

Here the president lays a hand on all the bread.

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup;

Here the president takes the cup.

and when he had given 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.

*Here the president is to lay a hand on every vessel
in which there is wine to be consecrated.*

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

All Amen.

Giving of Communion

The president and people receive communion.

To each is said

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which was given for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,
which was shed for you,
preserve your body and soul to everlasting life.
Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be
thankful.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is said in one of the two forms below.

As our Saviour 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.
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.

(or)

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.

Prayer after Communion

The president says one of the following prayers.

Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

(or)

Lord God,
sustain us in this vale of tears
with the vision of your grace and glory,
that, strengthened by the bread of life,

we may come to your eternal dwelling place; in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Gloria

One of these or another song of praise may be used.

All 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)

**Christ Jesus was in the form of God,
but he did not cling to equality with God.
He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant,
and was born in our human likeness.
Being found in human form he humbled himself,
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him,
and bestowed on him the name above every name,
That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth;
And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Philippians 2.5–11

The Blessing

The president may use a seasonal or another suitable blessing,

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens,
fill this house and illuminate your hearts; and the blessing of God
almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

(or)

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.