**THE GREETING**

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

**and also with you.**

**PENITENCE**

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: ‘If you love me, keep my commandments.’ ‘Unless I wash you, you have no part in me.’

Let us confess to almighty God our sins against his love, and ask him to cleanse us.

*Silence*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may walk in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**THE COLLECT**

God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: May he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love; who is alive and reigns with you and the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE FIRST READING Exodus 12: 1-4, [5-10], 11-14

A reading from the Book Exodus

12The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: 2This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. 3Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. 4If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it.[ 5Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. 7They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. 10You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn.] 11This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. 12For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the Lord. 13The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

14 This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** 116:1, 10 – 17 *page 728*

1  I love the Lord,  for he has heard the voice of my supplication; ♦︎
**because he inclined his ear to me on the day I called to him.**
10  How shall I repay the Lord ♦︎
   **for all the benefits he has given to me?**11  I will lift up the cup of salvation ♦︎
   **and call upon the name of the Lord.**
12  I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦︎
   **in the presence of all his people.**
13  Precious in the sight of the Lord ♦︎
   **is the death of his faithful servants.**14  O Lord, I am your servant, ♦︎
   **your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.**
15  I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving ♦︎
   **and call upon the name of the Lord.**16  I will fulfil my vows to the Lord ♦︎
   in the presence of all his people,
17  In the courts of the house of the Lord, ♦︎
**in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Alleluia.**

**THE EPISTLE READING** 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

The Epistle is written in the first Epistle to the Corinthians, chapter 11, beginning at verse 23

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, 24and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for\* you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ 25In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ 26For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE GOSPEL READING**

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ,
according to St John, in the 13th chapter, beginning at the first verse.

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

13Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. 2The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper 3Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, 4got up from the table,\* took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. 5Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. 6He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, ‘Lord, are you going to wash my feet?’ 7Jesus answered, ‘You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.’ 8Peter said to him, ‘You will never wash my feet.’ Jesus answered, ‘Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.’ 9Simon Peter said to him, ‘Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!’ 10Jesus said to him, ‘One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet,\* but is entirely clean. And you\* are clean, though not all of you.’ 11For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, ‘Not all of you are clean.’

12 After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, ‘Do you know what I have done to you? 13You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. 14So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. 15For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. 16Very truly, I tell you, servants\* are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. 17If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, ‘Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32If God has been glorified in him,\* God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, “Where I am going, you cannot come.” 34I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**SERMON**

Jesus rode into Jerusalem, having sent his disciples for a donkey. It was the time of Passover, and Jerusalem was more crowded than usual. As well as people, there were the Passover lambs, as many as 2,000,000 of them. In an Upper room, Jesus and his disciples sat down to the Passover meal. The symbols on the table reminded them of their ancient slavery, parsley in salt water for their bitter tears, charoset to remind them of the mortar of their forced building labour, the unleavened, hastily made bread, symbol of the haste of their departure, the lamb shank, reminder of the unblemished animal, eaten at that final meal in Egypt; that unblemished animal, whose blood, painted on the doorposts directed the angel of death away from their door.

At that significant meal of ancient ritual, another meal of great significance and future ritual was instituted: the Last Supper, first communion meal. There was the bread broken as Christ’s body would be broken, there was the wine poured out as his blood would flow from the cross.

For Christians down through the ages, in those simple elements, as Christ shared our human life, humans are invited to share in Christ’s death and sacrifice, and promised to share in his resurrection. As we listen to the words ‘This is my body, do this in remembrance of me’, may they become a living part of each one of us.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

 In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father through Christ the Saviour of the world.

Father, on the evening of this day, you Son Jesus Christ washed his disciples’ feet.

We commit ourselves to follow his example of love and service.

Lord, hear us

**And humble us.**

On the evening of this day, he prayed for his disciples to be one.

We pray for the unity of your church.

Lord, hear us

**And renew our zeal.**

On the evening of this day, he commanded his disciples to love, but suffered betrayal, denial and rejection himself. We pray for the rejected and unloved.

Lord, hear us

**And give us your peace.**

On the evening of this day, he accepted the cup of death and looked forward to the new wine of the kingdom.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, but away from their families: from our congregation, we remember Robin and the Jeffers family, bereaved by his death.

Lord, hear us

**And welcome all your children into paradise.**

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

**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. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Jesus says: ‘Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**and also with you.**

**AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE**

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

**THE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us

**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

 *Proper Preface*

And now we give you thanks, because having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end and on the night before he suffered, sitting at table with his disciples, he instituted these holy mysteries, that we, redeemed by his death and restored to life by his resurrection, might be partakers of his divine nature.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us: he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice 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.

On the night that he was betrayed \* he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, 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 when he had given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, 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. Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:

**we remember his passion and death, we celebrate his resurrection and ascension, and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him: Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, so we pray

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.

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We being many are one body, for we all share in the 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.**

**THE COMMUNION**

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

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

**THE GREAT SILENCE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord Jesus Christ, in this wonderful sacrament you have given us a memorial of your passion. Grant us so to revere the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves the fruits of your redemption, for you are alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of 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 BLESSING**

Christ draw you to himself and grant that you find in his cross a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

**DISMISSAL**

When the disciples had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed to the Father, ‘if it is possible, take this cup of suffering from me.’ He said to his disciples, ‘How is it tat you were not able to keep watch with me for one hour? The hour is come for the Son of man to be handed over to the power of sinners.’

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in peace.