

Modern liturgy

REVISED COMMUNION ORDER FROM 'WORSHIP TODAY'

This form of the holy communion service, in an earlier version which appeared in Worship Today (1975), was 'issued with the consent of the Departments of Liturgy and Music of the Lutheran Church of Australia for selected use'. It was approved as such by the 1987 General Synod of the LCA in its resolution on 'approved' holy communion orders of service. A revision by the Department of Liturgics was issued in a booklet in 1993.

Modern liturgy

PREPARATION

IN THE NAME

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

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**We confess that we are born in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart,
and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
We deserve your eternal punishment.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us. Amen.**

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:

Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins,
and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

I do.

Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's
presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made
you holy?

I do.

As a called and ordained servant of the word, I announce the grace of
God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by his
command, I forgive the sins of all of you who repent and believe, in the
name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with
you.

Amen.

*The peace may be exchanged here, or, more appropriately, at the
'Peace' before communion.*

HYMN/SONG

PSALM OR SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

HYMN OF ADORATION: PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ON HIGH

**Praise to God who reigns on high;
peace on earth to those he loves.
We praise and thank and worship you,
Lord our God, our heavenly king,
God the Father, mighty one.**

**Only Son, Lord Jesus Christ,
Lamb of God, the Father's Son,
you take away our sin and guilt;
you that sit at God's right hand,
hear us and have mercy, Lord.**

**You alone are holy, Christ,
only you are Lord of all;
for, with the Spirit, you alone
share the Father's glory, Christ.
Praise the Lord most high! Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (COLLECT)

Let us pray ... now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

After the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

SECOND READING

After the reading:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

A hallelujah verse or some other response may be sung or said.

GOSPEL

After the gospel:

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. OR Thanks be to God.

HYMN/SONG

SERMON

NICENE 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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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.**

** This means: us human beings*

† or: Christian; 'catholic' here means 'universal'

HYMN/SONG

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks
what you have first given us –
ourselves, our time, and our possessions –
as signs of your goodness and symbols of our love.
Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ,
who offered himself for us. Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN/SONG

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift our hearts with joy,
we lift them to the Lord.
We give you thanks, our God,
for that is right and good.**

**Yes, it is truly good,
our duty and delight,
that we should everywhere
and at all times give thanks.**

**And so we thank you now,
our holy Father, Lord,
eternal, mighty God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The appropriate verse for the season may be added.

In Advent/Christmas

**Who came to earth for us
in great humility
and by his birth and life
has shown your love to
all**

In Lent/Easter

**Who died upon the cross
to save us all from sin,
and rose from death
again
to bring eternal life.**

At Pentecost

**Who sent, as he had said,
the Holy Spirit down,
to guide and comfort us,
and fill us with your joy.**

**With all the angels, then,
with saints throughout all time,
we praise your wondrous name,
adore you evermore:**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
You fill all of heaven and earth;**

save us, God on high!
Let us praise the One who comes in the name of God.
Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise to you on high!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Gracious Father, we therefore remember the sacrifice of our Lord in celebration, as we receive his body and blood with this bread and wine. We rejoice to receive all that he has done for us in his life and death, his resurrection and ascension; and we wait for his coming again to share with us the heavenly feast. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we who receive the body and blood of Christ may live as true members of the body of your Son.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, your name be kept holy,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
And give us this day our bread for today.
Forgive our sins as we forgive all those who sin against us.
And help us when tempted, and save us from evil.
For kingdom, power, and praise are yours forever. Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

*The peace may be exchanged, if it was not done earlier after the
absolution.*

Let us share the peace of the Lord.

The people may say these or similar words to one another:

The peace of the Lord!

LAMB OF GOD

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away our sin:
have mercy on us, Lord.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away our sin:
have mercy on us, Lord.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away our sin:
give us your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

DISMISSAL

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life eternal. Go in peace. †

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION SONG: SONG OF SIMEON

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go
in peace, according to your word;
for I have seen your saving love,
which you have shown to all of us.**

**For your salvation now is seen
by all the nations of the earth:
a light to show your way to all,
for glory to your chosen race.**

**All praise to God the Father now,
all praise to Jesus Christ the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit praise,
both now and evermore. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us thank the Lord.

**We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through this healing gift;
and we pray that through it
you would graciously strengthen us
in faith toward you and in love toward one another;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CONCLUSION

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, † and give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN/SONG OF PRAISE