

# The service — alternative form

## FORM A

*This form of the holy communion service was approved for trial use in the Lutheran Church of Australia at its 1984 General Synod. It was included in the Supplement to Lutheran Hymnal (p 58), which was then authorised by the LCA at its 1987 Synod. A selection of the alternative canticles is provided here. The prefaces for the seasons are as revised for Sing the Feast.*

## NOTES

- 1 This form gives the following canticles: ‘This is the feast’ as the hymn of adoration, ‘Let the vineyards’ as the offertory, and ‘Thank the Lord’ as the post-communion song. See Form B for the alternatives of ‘Glory to God in the highest’, ‘Create in me’, and the Song of Simeon. One post-communion prayer is given here, and another in Form B. A third alternative offertory, ‘What shall I render’, is given in the appendix.
- 2 Congregations may use a different combination of the canticles; or they may use one form during Advent and Lent, and, as a contrast, the other form during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

# The service — alternative form (A)

## PREPARATION

### ENTRANCE

*The minister approaches the altar.*

## **IN THE NAME**

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

**Amen.**

## **HYMN**

### **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.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. 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.**

## **HYMN**

### **PSALM/INTROIT**

*After the psalm or introit:*

**Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### **LORD, HAVE MERCY**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

### **HYMN OF ADORATION: THIS IS THE FEAST**

*All* **This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*I* **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

*All* **This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*II* **Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour,  
blessing, and glory are his.**

*All* **This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*I* **Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God  
and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

*All* **This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

*II* **For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

*All* **This is the feast of victory for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **GREETING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY (COLLECT)**

Let us pray ... one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

The first reading for \_\_\_\_\_ is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

*After the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM /ANTIPHON**

*The antiphon or the psalm may be sung or said. The psalm ends with:*

**Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **SECOND READING**

The second reading is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_,  
beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

*After the reading:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **RESPONSE**

*The congregation may sing an appropriate alleluia verse, such as the following, or a suitable hymn.*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom** *OR*  
**shall we go? You have** *(Lent)*  
**the words of eternal life.**  
**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Return to the Lord, your God,  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in  
steadfast love.**

## **GOSPEL**

The holy gospel is written in chapter \_\_\_\_\_ of the Gospel according  
to St \_\_\_\_\_, beginning at verse \_\_\_\_\_.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The minister reads the gospel.*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **HYMN**

## **SERMON**

*After the sermon, the minister says the following or another apostolic blessing.*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and  
minds safe in Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **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

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY SONG: LET THE VINEYARDS

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all:  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## LITURGY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### HYMN

### PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*The minister says one of the following.*

**Advent:** You fulfilled your promise to comfort your people by sending Jesus the Redeemer, and to make all things new through him when he comes to judge the world and set it right. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Christmas:** You have revealed your glorious presence to us in a new way through the mystery of the Word made flesh, so that as we see you

in your Son, we are drawn to love you whom we cannot see. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Epiphany:** You have sent your only Son to appear among us as a human being, and through him you have fully revealed the light of your presence to us. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Lent:** He has taken on himself our sin, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Passion:** On the tree of the cross he gave salvation to all, so that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that the enemy, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Easter:** But most of all we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, the true Passover Lamb, who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising again he has restored life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the other witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Ascension:** After his resurrection he appeared openly to his disciples, and before their very eyes was taken up into heaven, so that by your grace we may share in his divine nature. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Pentecost:** When he had ascended above the heavens and was enthroned at your right hand, he poured out the promised Holy Spirit on his chosen people. At this the whole earth greatly rejoices, praising your name with many tongues. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**Trinity:** Who with you and the Holy Spirit is one God, one Lord, whom we confess as the only true God and worship as the eternal Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**After Pentecost:** (On this day) he overcame death by his resurrection and opened up for us the way to eternal life with you. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION (WITH PRAYER)**

*The words of institution may be said alone, without the accompanying prayer. In that case, they are preceded by the Lord's Prayer.*

All praise and thanks be to you, eternal God, holy Father, together with your only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, who unites your people in love. We thank you for creating all things. We thank you for calling and rescuing your chosen people. Above all we thank and praise you for keeping your promise to the people of old and sending your Son Jesus Christ, whose life, death, and resurrection for our salvation we remember as he comes to us in this holy meal.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith so that we who receive the body and blood of Christ may live as true members of the body of your Son.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest, until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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 forever. Amen.**

### **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

**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.**

## **DISTRIBUTION**

*During the distribution, hymns and other appropriate music may be used.*

*The minister and his assistants may commune during the Lamb of God.*

*When the minister and his assistants give the bread and the cup, they say:*

Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, given for you.

Take and drink, this is the blood of Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

## **DISMISSAL**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ make you strong in body and soul to life eternal. Go in peace.†

**Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION SONG: THANK THE LORD**

*The following or another post-communion song may be sung.*

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise;**

**tell everyone what he has done.**

**Let all who seek the Lord**

**rejoice and proudly bear his name.**

**He recalls his promises**

**and leads his people forth in joy**

**with shouts of thanksgiving.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*The following or another post-communion prayer is said.*

Let us pray.

**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.**

*OR* Almighty God, Father, Son,  
† and Holy Spirit, bless you  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

### DOXOLOGY