

The Season  
After  
Pentecost



The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.  
God is the ground, the substance,  
the teaching, the teacher,  
the purpose, the reward for which every soul labors.  
- Julian of Norwich

# Holy Eucharist

**Voluntary** *(Please refer to the insert)*

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn** *(Please refer to the insert.)*

**Opening Acclamation**

*Presider:* Blessed are you, our Holy and Living God.

*People:* **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

*Presider may read one of the following:*

**Form I: From the Penitential Order** *(BCP 1979)*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel:

The Lord your God is the only Lord.

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 neighbor as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

**Form II: The Collect for Purity** *(BCP 1979)*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

**The Collect** *Celebrant may use one of the following or the Collect of the Day*

*Presider:* May God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*A Collect for Guidance* *(BCP 1979)*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being:  
We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit,  
that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget  
you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A Collect based on the Prayer of St. Augustine*

*(Common Worship, Church of England)*

O Holy God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you; so lead us by your Spirit that in this life we may live to your glory and in the life to come enjoy you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please refer to the insert for the following:*

**The First Lesson**

**Psalm**

**The Gospel**

**The Sermon**

**Our Affirmation of Faith, Form I**

The Apostles' Creed

*(BCP 1979)*

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## **Affirmation of Faith, Form II**

*(Common Worship, Church of England)*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
creator of heaven and earth?

**I believe and trust in God Almighty.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ,  
who redeemed the world?

**I believe and trust in Christ our Savior.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit  
who gives life to the people of God?

**I believe and trust in the Holy Spirit.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

*(adapted from Common Worship,  
Church of England)*

In faith and hope we pray:  
For the Church of God.

For all bishops and other ministers; and for all people of God.

God of mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the world.

For those who suffer due to violence, poverty, or natural disaster;  
may all in need of refuge find relief and safety.

God of compassion,

**Hear our prayer.**

For this congregation and our communities,  
that we may be attentive to one another,  
and responsive to the needs of the world.

God of reconciliation,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all that is graceful in our lives, and of those we love.

*(Please add your thanksgivings here.)*

God of joy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For those entrusted to our prayers,

may they live in joy, peace, and health:

*(Please refer to the insert and add your own intercessions.)*

God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all who have died,

that they may know God's love and life eternal.

*(Please refer to the insert and add your own intercessions.)*

God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

**Concluding Collects** *(Presider uses one of the following.)*

**Collect I**

*(A New Zealand Prayer Book)*

God of peace, let your people know that at the heart of turbulence there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you. Keep us from being content with things as they are, that from this central peace there may come a creative compassion, a thirst for justice, and a willingness to give of ourselves in the spirit of Christ. **Amen.**

**Collect II**

*(BCP 1979)*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Collect III**

*(Order of St. Helena's Breviary)*

O God, our rock and refuge: Keep us safe in your care and strengthen us with your grace, that we may pray faithfully to you and love one another boldly, following the example of Jesus; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Confession**

*(Common Worship, Church of England)*

God is love and we are God's children.

There is no room for fear in love.

We love because God loved us first.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence*

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned**

**in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy**

**forgive what we have been,**

**help us to amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be;**

**that we may act justly,**

**love mercy, and walk humbly with you,**

**O God of our salvation. Amen.**

## **The Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

## **The Peace**

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*Offertory baskets are located at the entrances to the sanctuary for pledge offerings and donations.*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*(Copyright 2016, The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley)*

*Presider:* May God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to our God.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours, our true and loving God; you are the strength and goodness of fatherhood, you are the wisdom and love of motherhood; you are light and grace and blessed love. You are Trinity, you are Unity.

With so much of this life beyond our control, often overwhelmed by anxiety and grief, we gather around your table to remember that there is nothing the powers of this world can bring, nothing in our present lives, nor in whatever the future may hold, there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from your love.

You, O God, are nearer to us than our own soul, for you are the ground in whom our soul stands. So will we bless you as long as we live, and lift our voices in praise as we say/sing:

**Sanctus** (*if sung*)

Wonder, Love and Praise Hymn 857

Betty Carr Pulkingham

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Sanctus** (*if spoken*)

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Gracious One, before you made us, you loved us. And when our sin turns us away from you and causes us pain, in your love and mercy you assure us that all shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.

Out of love for us you sent your Son, Jesus, to live and die as one of us, to teach and heal, to feed those who were hungry, to embrace the outcasts. Through his life you showed us the depth of your reconciling love for the world. Through his death and resurrection, you overcame death forever and gave to us everlasting life.

On their last night together, Jesus gathered his friends around the table. He took the bread, gave you thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you." After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and offered it to them, saying, "Drink this all of you. This is my blood, the cup of God's new covenant with you and with all, the promise of life everlasting. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

The love of Christ restores and transforms us;  
and we rejoice in our salvation:

**We open our hearts to love one another as he loved us;**

**We remember how he died**

**and rose again to live now in us.**

Together with him, we offer you these gifts,  
and ourselves:

**our souls and bodies.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Empowered by your Spirit, may we do justice, and love kindness and walk with you all our days; until at the last, we are gathered home, and our hearts may rest in you.



With all your people, past, present and yet to come, we give you thanks and praise, through the Son and in the Spirit, in every moment of our lives, now and forever. **AMEN.**

In confidence and hope, let us pray the Lord's Prayer:  
*Praying either version, or in any language, as you are comfortable:*

**The Lord's Prayer**, *traditional version*

**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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**, *contemporary version*

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Fraction** *(if sung)*

Wonder, Love and Praise Hymn 764, refrain James E. Moore, Jr.

Musical notation for the refrain of 'Wonder, Love and Praise Hymn 764'. The music is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord. The word 'Fine' is written above the final measure.

**The Fraction** *(if spoken)*

Be known to us Lord Jesus,  
**in the breaking of the bread.**

**The Invitation**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
*All are welcome to receive from God's Table. (See insert for detailed instructions.)*

**Hymn at Communion** *(Please refer to the insert)*

**Post Communion Prayer**

**Form I** *(Scottish Episcopal Church)*

Let us pray:

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. Amen.

## Form II

*(Enriching Our Worship)*

Let us pray:

**God of abundance,  
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
you have united us with Christ and one another;  
and you have made us one with all your people  
in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim you redeeming love to the world  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

## Form III

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*(BCP 1979)*

*All:* **Eternal God,**

**you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## Form IV

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*(BCP 1979)*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Blessing** *(Celebrant may use one of these, or another Blessing)*

**Form I**

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honor everyone;  
love and serve our God,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all, now and always. **Amen.**

**Form II**

My friends, life is short  
and we do not have much time  
to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us,  
so be quick to love and make haste to be kind.  
And rest assured that God is infinitely more concerned  
with the promise of our future  
than the mistakes of our past.  
And the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all, now and always. **Amen.**

**Form II**

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. **Amen.**

**Announcements** *(Please refer to the insert)*

**Closing Hymn** *(Please refer to the insert)*

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia.

**Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Voluntary** (*Please refer to the insert*)

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## Liturgical Resources

The introductory texts: from the Penitential Order or the Collect for Purity are both from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979.

The Collects: the first is from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. the second is based on a quotation by St. Augustine, found in his Confessions.

The Affirmation Form I is from the BCP 1979.

The Affirmation Form II, the Prayers of the People, the Confession and Absolution are drawn from The Church of England's Common Worship.

The Collects after the Prayers of the People:

Form I is from A New Zealand Prayer Book; Form II is from the *Book of Common Prayer, 1979*, p. 395; Form II is from the *Order of St. Helena's Breviary*.

The Post Communion Prayers: Form I is from the Scottish Episcopal Church, and Form II is from The Episcopal Church's approved resource, *Enriching Our Worship*. Form III and IV are from the BCP 1979.

The Eucharistic Prayer was written in house. I drew upon Micah 6:8, Romans 8:38-39, Ephesians 3:16-19, and portions of St. Julian of Norwich's Showings, as translated by Clifton Wolters, and found in prayer form in The Saint Helena Breviary.

You may find those texts here:

### **Micah 6:8** (NRSV)

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

### **Romans 8:38-39** (NRSV)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Ephesians 3:16-19** (The St. Helena Breviary)

I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory,  
you may be strengthened in your inner being  
with power through the Holy Spirit.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,  
as you are rooted and grounded in love.

I pray that you may have the power to comprehend,  
with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height  
and depth of the love of God for us, and that you may know  
the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,  
and be filled with all the fullness of God.

Canticle adapted from **The Showings of Julian of Norwich**  
(The St. Helena Breviary)

You, O Christ, are the One:  
the might and goodness of fatherhood.

You are the One:  
the wisdom and kindness of motherhood.

You, O Christ, are the One:  
the light and grace of all blessed love;  
you are Trinity; you are Unity.

You, O Christ, are the One:  
the high sovereign goodness of all manner of things.

You are the One who makes us to love;  
you are the One who makes us to long.

You, O Christ, are the One:  
the endless fulfilling of all our true desires.

SAINT STEPHEN'S PARISH  
67 East Street  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts

A Jubilee Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

Our mission is to be the heart and hands of Christ:  
Nourishing people, transforming lives.