

*St Peter and St Paul
Flitwick, Bedfordshire.*



PARISH EUCHARIST
LENT

Welcome!

For over eight hundred years Christian worship and ministry
have been offered in this building,
the Parish Church of Flitwick.

It is our pleasure to welcome you here today.

This is the most solemn season of the Church's Year. As Good Friday and Easter approach, we prepare to celebrate once more the central mysteries of our faith, the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and God. Taking our lead from his own preparation for ministry, the forty days of temptation and prayer in the wilderness, this is a time of austerity and self-examination; not for their own sake, but so that we can become more attentive to God and grow in faith, love and service.

How to follow the various parts of the service:

You can use this booklet to follow the service. The following symbols will help you to stand, sit or kneel at the times which are usual in this church; if you find it more comfortable to sit throughout, please do so.



The numbers of today's hymns, which are sung from the orange hymn book, can be found on the hymn boards or in the pew sheet.

The words and music for the Psalm are on the sheet with today's readings.

For Younger Worshippers

Children's Church meets today in the Chapter House. Children aged 3+ are very welcome to the group for games, stories, crafts and prayer. The children will join us in church during Communion.



The Greeting

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All



Opening Hymn



Prayer of Preparation

All **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.
Amen.**



The 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.



Confession

Confession is introduced with these or other appropriate words

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled against him.

Let us then renounce our wilfulness
and ask his mercy by confessing our sins
in penitence and faith.



All

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
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 neighbours 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 do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**



Kyrie

All

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**



Absolution

The priest uses these or other appropriate words

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

All



Collect

The priest prays the special prayer for today.



Readings

One or two readings from the Bible precede the Gospel.

At the end of each the reader says

All This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Psalm

The choir leads us as together we sing the psalm, found on the sheet of readings.



Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to...
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ.



Sermon



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.



Intercessions

This response may be used

All Lord, in your mercy
 Hear our prayer.

At the end

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



The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange a sign of peace



Offertory Hymn

*During the singing of this hymn, a collection towards the ministry of
this church is taken, the altar is prepared, and the bread and wine are
brought up.*



Prayer over the Gifts

God of our journey, as we walk with you
on your path of obedience, sustain us on our way
and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

All



Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days you lead us into
the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage
of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.



Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.
As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds we bless you
for your mercy and join with saints and angels
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.**

**[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.]**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.



All

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

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.**



Breaking of Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**



All

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**



Giving of Communion

All

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

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

All

**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.**

If you receive Communion at your own church, please do come and share bread and wine with us today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, come to altar rail, bringing this service book with you.



Hymn

Choir Piece



Prayer after Communion

The priest says the Post Communion Prayer for the day. All respond

All **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.**



Blessing

The priest uses this or another suitable blessing

All **Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.**



Hymn

Dismissal

All **Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Please help us by replacing your kneeler on the pew, and returning this
service booklet and your hymn book to the back of church.
Thank you.*

*Please join us after the service as we enjoy fellowship and
refreshments in the Chapter House*