

*St Peter and St Paul  
Flitwick, Bedfordshire.*



HOLY EUCHARIST  
PASSIONTIDE

# 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.

In Passiontide, as we approach Good Friday and Easter, we prepare to celebrate the central mysteries of the Christian faith – the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. As we come to worship day by day, we share in Christ's own journey towards the Passion, from his triumphal entry in Jerusalem to the Last Supper and Golgotha. This is one of the few times in the church's year when our pace slows to real time, and we live God's story each day, with the same hope and desolation as that first Holy Week.

## 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.



## The Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you.

*All*      **And also with you.**



## 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.  
**Amen.**  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*All*



## Confession

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree,  
so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness;  
by his wounds we have been healed.  
Let us confess our sins.



*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

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus  
we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

*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

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion:  
make us perfect in your love.  
**Amen.**

*All*



## Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near,  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden  
majesty. The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,  
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 crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him 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 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*

