

# St George's Church

Service of Holy Communion



Welcome to St George's Church. If you are new or visiting, please introduce yourself to us after the service – we are delighted to have you with us.

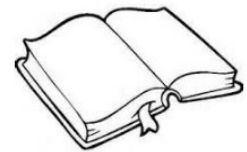
CALL



CONFESSION



CONSECRATION



COMMUNION



COMMISSION



Advent – Christmas – Epiphany

For regular events and news from St George's Church, make sure you are on our mailing list. Previous Pastoral Letters are available on our church website.

God's family, reaching out and welcoming in, because  
JESUS IS GOOD NEWS

## CALL: God gathers us

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

This is the day that the LORD has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*[Psalm 118:24]*

Jesus is the light of the world.

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

**For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given.**

**And he is called:**

**Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

O Church, arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**Come, children of God,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

*[Isaiah 9:2,6; 60:1-3; 2:5]*

## Hymn

## CONFESSION: God cleanses us

Follow God's example as dearly loved children and live a life of love,  
just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us  
as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness,  
righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord.

*[Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-10] 2*

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:  
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*[1 Timothy 1:15]*

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.  
**If we walk in the light, as he is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another,  
and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.**

*[1 John 1:5,7]*

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself,  
and cleanse you from all your sins  
that you may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect (set prayer for today)

## **CONSECRATION: God speaks and transforms us**

*The first Bible reading ends with this Response:*

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

*Please stand for the Gospel reading*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*:  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Hymn

## 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,  
he became 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.**

## Prayers

*Some of the prayers may end in this way:*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

*The Minister will invite you to stand for the Communion Prayer. If you wish to remain seated you are welcome to do so.*

## COMMUNION: God feeds & unites us

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

As we draw near to you, Holy God, we come in repentance and faith:

**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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in your tender mercy you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.

He made there, by his once and for all offering of himself, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He instituted and in his holy gospel commands us to continue a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we humbly pray and grant that we – who receive this bread and wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion – may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread, and, when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: *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. Amen.*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

*Please sit down again.*

*A **song or hymn** will be played as the bread and wine are prepared for distribution. You are welcome to sing along.*

### **Notes about Communion**

We invite all baptised Christians who trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are members of a local church and who seek strength to live as disciples of Christ to receive the bread and wine with us.

The bread and wine will be brought to you. Please remain seated.

Ordinarily we would have a shared cup as an important part of the symbolism of this meal. For now, we will express our unity in the following way:

We will each receive a piece of the broken bread. When everyone has a piece we will eat together. Then we will each receive a glass of wine. When everyone has one, we will drink together.

If you do not wish to receive the bread and wine you can simply indicate that as the server comes near.

Whether you receive bread and wine, or not, please use the time to consider the gift of Jesus' salvation, offered to you. Then pray for others within the church family.

### The 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.**

*Please stand:*

## COMMISSION: God sends us

Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.  
The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.  
So put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light.  
Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and do not think about how to gratify your selfish desires.

[Romans 13:12,14]

**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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Hymn

#### Final blessing

Wait eagerly for our Lord Jesus to be revealed.  
God will keep you firm to the end,  
so that you will be blameless on the day of Christ.  
God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship  
with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

[1 Corinthians 1:7-9]

**Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth, peace,  
to those on whom his favour rests.**

... and the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

*Please wait for someone to collect your wine glass before leaving your pew.  
If you would like someone to pray with you, please stay in your seat as others leave.*

We are  
CHOSEN and REDEEMED,  
to be  
HOLY DISCIPLES,  
JOYFUL FAMILY,  
and  
SERVANT MISSIONARIES.

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