

Alternative Services
Second Series

An Order for

HOLY COMMUNION

This Service

has been authorized for use until 31 December 1979, pursuant to Canon B 2 of the Canons of the Church of England. Decisions as to which of the authorized forms of service are to be used (other than occasional offices) shall be taken jointly by the incumbent and the parochial church council, as provided by Canon B 3.

Notes

Sections not preceded by the symbol ►, and material in [brackets], may be omitted.

The printing of prayers in short lines shows that the People should or may join with the Priest.

The People should say or sing responses printed in *italics*.

The Antecomunion

Introduction

1. At the entry of the Ministers a psalm, or portion of a psalm, may be sung, or else a hymn.

2. Then may be said the following prayer.

**Almighty God,
unto whom all hearts be open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love thee,
and worthily magnify thy holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

3. One of the following may be used: either the Ten Commandments, or our Lord's summary of the Law, or the Kyries in English or Greek. The text for these appears in Appendix 1 on pp. 13 and 14.

4. Then may be sung or said,

**Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ:
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

For thou only art Holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the Most High, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

- ▶ 5. Then shall the Priest read the Collect of the Day, first saying,
The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

The Ministry of the Word

6. A lesson from the Old Testament may then be read.
7. A psalm, or portion of a psalm, may then be sung or said, or else a canticle, or a hymn.
▶ 8. A lesson from the Old or New Testament shall then be read.
9. A psalm, or portion of a psalm, may then be sung or said, or else a canticle, or a hymn.
▶ 10. A lesson from the Gospels shall then be read; and when the Gospel is announced, the People shall answer,
Glory be to thee, O Lord.
▶ 11. At the end of the Gospel the People shall answer,
Praise be to thee, O Christ.
▶ 12. The sermon shall be preached after the Gospel.
▶ 13. On Sundays and other holy days the Creed shall then be sung or said.

I believe in one God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible:
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made:

who for us men, and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man,
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried,
and the third day he rose again
according to the scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.
And he shall come again with glory
to judge both the quick and the dead:
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the Lord, the Giver of life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshipped and glorified,
who spake by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins.
And I look for the Resurrection of the dead,
and the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercession

- ▶ 14. The prayers of the Church shall then be offered by the Priest or by one of the other Ministers.

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ
Jesus, and for all men according to their needs.

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the prayers of
those who ask in faith:

Here he may pray for the Church throughout the world, and especially for the diocese and its Bishop; for any particular need of the Church; and a short period of silence may be kept; after which he may say,

Lord, in thy mercy
Hear our prayer.

Grant that we who confess thy Name may be united in thy truth, live together in thy love, and show forth thy glory in the world.

Here he may pray for the nations of the world, and especially for this kingdom and Elizabeth its Queen; for all men in their various callings; and again a short period of silence may be kept; after which he may say,

Lord, in thy mercy
Hear our prayer.

Direct this nation and all the nations in the ways of justice and of peace, that we may honour all men, and seek the common good.

Here he may pray for the sick, the poor, and for those in trouble; for the needs of particular persons; and again a short period of silence may be kept; after which he may say,

Lord, in thy mercy
Hear our prayer.

Save and comfort those who suffer, that they may hold to thee through good and ill, and trust in thy unfailing love.

Here he may commemorate the departed: he may commend them by name; and again a short period of silence may be kept; after which he may say,

Lord, in thy mercy
Hear our prayer.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in faith, and grant us with them a share in thy eternal kingdom.

At the end of the prayers he shall say,

Grant these our prayers, O merciful Father, for the sake of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

15. The prayers of the Church may be said as one continuous prayer; or in their place one of the forms set out in Appendix 2 on pp. 14–16.

16. Banns of Marriage and other notices may then be published, if they have not been published before the service; a hymn may be sung, and the gifts of the People collected; and if there be no Communion *The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ*, etc., may be said.

The Communion

The Preparation of the People

▶ 17. Then shall the Priest begin the Communion, saying, Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

▶ 18. The Minister and People shall then make the following Confession.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against thee,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.

For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve thee
in newness of life,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

▶ 19. The Priest shall then say the following Absolution.

Almighty God 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.*

20. Here may be said these comfortable words by the Priest, or by one of the other Ministers.

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ says
to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden, and
I will refresh you.

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Hear also what Saint Paul says.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Hear also what Saint John says.

If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins.

21. Then may be said by the Priest alone, or by Priest and People together, the following prayer.

We do not presume to come to this thy table,
O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in thy manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under thy table.
But thou art the same Lord,
whose nature it is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ,
and to drink his Blood,
that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

22. Then the Priest may say,

We are the Body of Christ. By one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body. Endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you;
And with thy spirit.

The Preparation of the Bread and Wine

- ▶ 23. Then shall bread and wine be placed in order upon the Holy Table; and the gifts of the People may be collected and presented at the same time. Meanwhile, a hymn may be sung.

The Thanksgiving

- ▶ 24. Then shall the Priest at once begin the Prayer of Consecration, saying,

The Lord be with you;

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God;

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, thine only Son, our Lord;

Because through him thou hast created all things from the beginning, and fashioned us men in thine own image;

Through him thou didst redeem us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born as man, to die upon the cross, and to rise again for us;

During Christmastide insert here,

For by the operation of the Holy Spirit he was made man of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin;

During Passiontide insert here,

For being found in fashion as a man he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross; wherefore thou hast raised him from the dead, and given him the Name that is above every name;

During Eastertide insert here,

For he is the true Paschal Lamb which was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again has restored to us everlasting life;

Through him thou hast made us a people for thine own possession, exalting him to thy right hand on high, and sending forth through him thy holy and life-giving Spirit;

From Ascension Day to the Saturday after Pentecost insert here,

For by the gift of that same Spirit thou hast empowered thy people to preach the Gospel among the nations, and to serve thee acceptably as a royal priesthood;

Through him therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee, and saying,

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.

Hear us, O Father, through Christ thy Son our Lord; through him accept our sacrifice of praise; and grant that these gifts of bread and wine may be unto us his Body and Blood;

Who in the same night that he was betrayed¹ took bread; and, when he had given thanks to thee, 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. Likewise after supper he² took the cup; and, when he had given thanks to thee, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

¹ Here the Priest is to take the bread into his hands.

² Here he is to take the cup into his hands.

Wherefore, O Lord, with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of his saving passion, his resurrection from the dead, and his glorious ascension into heaven, and we look for the coming of his kingdom. We pray thee to accept this our duty and service, and grant that we may so eat and drink these holy things in the presence of thy divine majesty, that we may be filled with thy grace and heavenly blessing;

Through the same Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, from the whole company of earth and heaven, throughout all ages, world without end.

▶ 25. And all the People shall say,

Amen.

26. This anthem may be sung or said.

Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Breaking of the Bread

▶ 27. Then shall the consecrated bread be broken into pieces; and first may be said,

The cup of blessing which we bless,
is it not a sharing of the Blood of Christ?
The bread which we break,
is it not a sharing of the Body of Christ?
We being many are one bread, one Body,
for we all partake of the one bread.

28. While the consecrated bread is being broken, the following anthem may be sung.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Sharing of the Bread and Wine

- ▶ 29. Then shall the Priest and People together say the Lord's Prayer, the Priest first saying,

Let us pray.

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to say,

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. Amen.

- ▶ 30. Then shall the Priest and the other Ministers themselves receive the consecrated bread and wine, and shall deliver them to the People; and first the Priest may say,

Draw near with faith: receive the Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, and his Blood, which was shed for you; and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

- ▶ 31. He who delivers the consecrated bread and wine shall say to each one who receives,

The Body of Christ and The Blood of Christ
and he who receives shall reply,
Amen.

32. Or else he who delivers the consecrated bread and wine shall say,

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

and

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

33. While the People are receiving, hymns and anthems may be sung.

Conclusion

- ▶ 34. Then shall the Priest say,

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank thee that thou dost feed us in these holy mysteries with the Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and that thou dost keep us thereby in the Body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and we pray thee that we may continue as living members of that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

35. Or else this prayer, which may be said by Priest and People together.

Almighty God,
we offer thee our souls and bodies,
to be a living sacrifice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out into the world
in the power of thy Spirit,
to live and work
to thy praise and glory. Amen.

36. Here may be sung or said *Glory be to God on high*, if it has not been used before the Collect of the Day.

- ▶ 37. Then shall the Priest let the People depart, saying,

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

And he, or one of the Ministers, shall say,

Go forth in peace;
Thanks be to God.

38. But instead of the foregoing dismissal, or in addition to it, the Priest may say,

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.

- ▶ 39. The Ministers and People shall then depart.
- ▶ 40. What remains of the consecrated bread and wine which is not required for purposes of Communion shall be consumed immediately after all have communicated, either by the Priest, or by one of the other Ministers while the Priest continues the service; or it shall be left upon the Holy Table until the end of the service, and then consumed.

Appendix 1

The Ten Commandments

God spake these words and said:

I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

Our Lord's Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

The Kyries

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

[Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Christe eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison.]

Appendix 2

A General Intercession

O God, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. [Especially we pray for...]
Lord, hear us. *Amen.*

We pray for the good estate of the catholic Church, that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. [Especially we pray for...]
Lord, hear us. *Amen.*

We commend to thy fatherly goodness all those, who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate [especially we pray for...]; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.
This we beg for Jesus Christ his sake. *Amen.*

A Short Litany

Let us beseech the all-holy and ever-blessed Trinity to send forth mercy and grace upon us and upon all people.

O God the Father, have mercy upon us:
O God the Father, have mercy upon us.
O God the Son, have mercy upon us:
O God the Son, have mercy upon us.
O God the Holy Spirit, have mercy upon us:
O God the Holy Spirit, have mercy upon us.

Stretch out thy hand upon us, O Lord, and save us; raise us up and defend us.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the peace that cometh from above, and for the salvation of our souls.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the peace of the whole world, and for the welfare and unity of the Church of God.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the conversion of those in unbelief and error.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for our country, for this place [*or city*], for this diocese, and for all that dwell therein.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all Christian people throughout the world.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all Christian princes and governors, especially our sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all in authority in this land, especially those in this county [*or city or place*].
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the bishops and clergy of Christ's Church, especially for *N.* our bishop.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all voyagers and travellers.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for steadfastness in the faith for our brethren beyond the seas.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all who are sick or suffering, in mind, body, or estate.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for a holy and happy death, for rest in paradise, and for the perfect vision of the glory of God.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray that we may follow the blessed saints and martyrs in bearing our cross before the world.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the faithful departed.
Lord, have mercy.

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of thy perpetual providence carry out the work of man's salvation, and let the whole world feel and see that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and all things are returning to perfection through him from whom they took their origin, even Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Instead of *Lord*, *have mercy* may be said

Lord, hear our prayer;
And let our cry come unto thee.

Publishers' Note

The use of paragraphs not marked with the symbol ► is optional, as is that of passages within [brackets]. Responses printed in *italics* are to be said by the People alone; where they are expected to join in with the Priest or where they are free to do so if it is wished, the text is set out in short lines.

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