**Early Communion A**

13 August 2023 830 am

**Greeting**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all:  
**and also with you.**

**Collect for Purity**

**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.**

**Penitence**

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.  
This is the first and great commandment.  
And the second is like it.  
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.  
On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy on us,**  
**and write these your laws in our hearts.**

**Confession**

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins, to intercede for us in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.  
Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments and to live in love and peace:  
*Silence*  
Let us confess our sins

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned in thought and word and deed,  
and in what we have left undone.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may walk in newness of life  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Absolution**

**Glory to God *page 203***

**Glory to God in the highest,**  
**and peace to God’s people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect of the Day**

*The Tenth Sunday after Trinity*Let your merciful ears, O Lord,  
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;  
and that they may obtain their petitions,  
make them to ask such things as shall please you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Epistle Romans 10:5–15**

**A Reading from Romans chapter10 beginning at verse 5**  
**5** Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.” **6** But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) **7** “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). **8** But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: **9** If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. **11** As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” **12** For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, **13** for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”  
**14** How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? **15** And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

**Gospel Matthew 14.22–33**

Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ, according to Matthew chapter 14 beginning at verse 22  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**  
**Matthew 14:22–33 (NIV 11)**

**22** Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. **23** After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, **24** and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.  
**25** Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. **26** When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.  
**27** But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”  
**28** “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”  
**29** “Come,” he said.  
Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. **30** But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”  
**31** Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”  
**32** And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. **33** Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Nicene Creed *page 205***

Let us affirm our Faith in God

**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 by the Holy Spirit of 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 of the People**

United in the company of all the faithful and looking for the coming of the kingdom,  
let us offer our prayers to God, the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord, strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit, that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless David our bishop, and all ministers of your Church,  
that by faithful proclamation of your word we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets into a holy temple in the Lord.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Empower us by the gift of your holy and life-giving Spirit, that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ from glory to glory.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give to the world and its peoples the peace that comes from above, that they may find Christ’s way of freedom and life.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love in the service of the poor and needy; all those who minister to the sick and dying; and all who bring light to those in darkness.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Touch and heal all those whose lives are scarred by sin or disfigured by pain,  
So that, raised from death to life in Christ, their sorrow may be turned to eternal joy.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Hasten the day when many will come from east and west, from north and south,  
and sit at table in your kingdom.  
Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for the whole company of your saints in glory, with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises.

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

**Prayer of Humble Access**

*Let us pray*

**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.**

**The Peace**

God is love and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.  
The Peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you**

**Taking the Bread & Wine**

Christ our passover has been sacrificed for us  
**therefore let us celebrate the feast.**

**Great Thanksgiving (1) page 209**

The Lord is here  
**His Spirit is with us.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Father, almighty and everliving God, at all times and in all places it is right to give you thanks and praise:

And so with all your people, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever 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!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us,

but in your love and mercy you freed us from the slavery of sin, giving your only begotten Son to become man and suffer death on the cross to redeem us:

he made there the one complete and all-sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world: he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, 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 to you, he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you, for 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.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we do as Christ your Son commanded:  
**we remember his passion and death,  
we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,  
and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; and as we eat and drink these holy gifts, grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit

that we may be made one in your holy Church and partakers of the body and blood of your Son, that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
**all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**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 for ever. Amen.**

**Breaking Bread**

The bread which we break  
is a sharing in the body of Christ.  
**We being many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

**Invitation**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

**Receiving Communion**

Please come forward to receive the Bread and Wine.

**Prayer after Communion**

O God,  
as we are strengthened by these holy mysteries,  
so may our lives be a continual offering,  
holy and acceptable in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Send us**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the spiritual food  
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Blessing**

God the Father,  
who has given to his Son the name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ as Lord;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Dismissal**

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