

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, CANTERBURY



The Holy Eucharist in Lent and Passiontide

In Lent we return to our Anglican roots using the texts of the Book of Common Prayer, with their strong penitential tone, and considering our need for examination of our Christian lives. We may take up voluntary disciplines, or fasting, to help us prepare for Good Friday and we may set extra time aside each week for learning more about our faith through attending a Lent course or taking more care over our reading of Scripture.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts forty days, reflecting the long time that Jesus Our Lord spent in the wilderness thinking about his mission to the lost sheep of his people. The church is undecorated: there are no flowers and, in the English tradition, the hangings and vestments are of unbleached linen.

The musical setting we sing on Sundays during Lent and Passiontide is *The Hadleigh Setting* by Alan Ridout (1934–1996). Ridout had a close connection to Canterbury, collaborating with Allan Wicks when he was Organist and Master of the Choristers of Canterbury Cathedral on a number of works, teaching composition to the cathedral choristers, and on the staff of the Kings School.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in our Church. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to 'T'



Large print orders of service are available from the sidespersons. Please ask.



Toilet facilities are available in the Church Hall. Please ask a Sidesperson for directions.



This service is being live-streamed for those who are unable to join us in church; By attending this service, you are giving permission and acknowledging that you may briefly appear on this stream. If you have any queries or concerns about this, please speak to a churchwarden or member of the clergy before the service begins.



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The Holy Eucharist in Lent and Passiontide

The Gathering

On Sunday we STAND, if you are able, to sing a hymn

The Greeting

The president says:

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

The president welcomes the people and introduces the worship.

All The Lord be with you
And also with you.

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 the Lord your God with all your heart,
With all your soul, and with all your mind,
And with all your strength'.

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself,
There is no greater commandments than these;
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

All **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Prayers of Penitence

A minister introduces the prayers of penitence.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin:

All Lord, have mercy. (or) Kyrie eleison
Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison



Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me:

All Christ, have mercy. (or) Christe eleison
Christ, have mercy. Christe eleison



Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me:

All Lord, have mercy. *(or)* Kyrie eleison
Lord, have mercy. **Kyrie eleison**



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.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

The president introduces a period of silent prayer with these words:

All The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us pray.

At the end of the prayer all respond:

All **Amen.**

We SIT for the readings.



The Liturgy of the Word

One or two readings from Scripture follow.

At the end of each reading, the reader says:

This is the word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

On Sundays we STAND, if you are able, to sing a hymn.

Gospel Reading

In Lent:

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

cf Psalm 95.3,8

or in Passiontide:

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore, God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

Philippians 2.8,9

All

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of e - ter - nal glo - ry.

A minister says:

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

All **Glory to you O Lord.**



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

At the end the reader says:

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Priase to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Creed

Please STAND, if you are able.

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.



Prayers of Intercession

We SIT or KNEEL for the prayers

The following responses may be used:

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

(or)

All Lord, hear us
Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end:

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



The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please STAND, if you are able.

The president introduces the Peace with these words

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.

We offer one another a sign of peace

On Sundays the Offertory Hymn is sung, the gifts are taken up and the elements brought to the Lord's table.

If you would like to make a donation towards the work of St Stephen's, a plate will be passed around for cash donations; if you are able to Gift Aid your donation please complete a giving envelope. There is a card reader for contactless contributions at the back of church and you can also make a donation by scanning this QR code on your smart phone.



The altar is prepared by the ministers and the elements set upon it. When all is ready the president prays:

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.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

*Eucharistic Prayer C,
drawn from the Book of Common Prayer*

The Lord is here.
All **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 him thanks and praise.**

In Lent:

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:

The service continues with the Sanctus on the next page.

In Passiontide:

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.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and_ might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the_ high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,
 who, in your tender mercy,
 gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
 to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
 who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
 a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
 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.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
 and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
 we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this 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;

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
 took bread and gave you 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 gave you 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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

All

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.
 You are the Saviour of the world.**



Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

We SIT or KNEEL and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer

In Lent:

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our Saviour taught us so we pray:

In Passiontide:

Standing at the foot of the cross, 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.**

The president breaks the consecrated 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.**

The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken

All

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world, grant us peace.

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.**

The president and people receive the Sacrament. If you do not want to receive the sacrament please come forward and cross your hands before you so that the ministers know to pray a blessing for you.

During the distribution of communion, music may be played, and the choir may sing a hymn and a seasonal anthem.

Prayer after the Communion

Silence is kept while the ministers clear the altar. The president will then say:

All The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us pray.

The president prays the post communion prayer, we then pray together

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with 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.**



The Dismissal

The President prays a blessing.

In Lent:

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:

All

Amen.

In Passiontide:

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:

All

Amen.

Notices may be given here, then we STAND, if you are able, to sing the final hymn.

A minister says:

Go in the peace of Christ

All

Thanks be to God.

Refreshments are available in the Church Hall after the service on Sunday and Wednesday mornings – we hope that you will join us.

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