

## HOLY COMMUNION FOR AN ECO CHURCH

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it.

Psalm 24.1

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### The Gathering

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

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

The president introduces the service

A hymn/song is sung, music is played, or silence is kept, during which the worship space may be 'greened' – with an altar cloth, a lectern fall, changed lighting, projected image, or other green display brought in or revealed

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth;  
you dry up the green tree  
and make the dry tree flourish;  
in your hand is the life of every living thing  
and the breath of every human being;  
As your Son made the multitude to sit down on the green grass  
and fed them with the bread of life,  
make us to lie down in green pastures  
and lead us beside still waters;  
so that, like a tree planted by water,  
which does not fear the heat but whose leaves shall stay green,  
we may be refreshed and sustained in you,  
and honour the everlasting covenant  
you have established with your creation,  
for you have seen that it is very good.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God forever.**

## Prayers of Penitence

Human sin disfigures the whole creation,  
which groans with eager longing for God's redemption.  
We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

*cf Romans 8.22,23*

We confess to you  
our lack of care for the world you have given us.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you  
our selfishness in not sharing the earth's bounty fairly.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

We confess to you  
our failure to protect resources for others.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*from New Patterns for Worship p470-471*

## Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his 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.**

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer and says this Collect or the Collect of the Day*

O Lord our God, who brought your people into a good land,  
and sends showers of blessing that the earth shall yield its increase;  
flourish within us your gift of faith  
that, in our worship, our churches, our communities, and our lives,  
we may honour and renew your creation  
and join in obedience with the wind and the waters,  
the wilderness and the desert,  
the birds of the air and the fish of the sea,  
and all created things to give glory and praise  
to the image of the invisible God,  
the first born of all creation,  
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Reading(s)

*At the end*                      This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*A psalm may follow the readings and/or other hymns/songs may be used*

### Gospel Reading

Alleluia, Alleluia.  
You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power. For you created all things.  
**Alleluia.**

*When the Gospel is announced*

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

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

### Sermon

## The 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,  
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

*The prayers usually include these concerns: the Church; the world; those who suffer; the communion of saints*

*The 'Eco Litany' may be used in place of the Prayers of Intercession*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

### The Peace

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
so shall the word that goes out from the mouth of the Lord  
not return empty, but accomplish the Lord's purpose  
and succeed in that for which it was sent.  
For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace.

*from Isaiah 55.10-12*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it*

*This or another prayer is used*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

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

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

Father, we give you thanks and praise  
for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
He is the image of the unseen God,  
the first-born of all creation.  
He created all things in heaven and on earth:  
everything visible and everything invisible,  
thrones, dominions, sovereignties, powers,  
all things were created through him and for him.

He is the radiant light of your glory:  
he holds all creation together by his word of power.

He is first to be born from the dead.  
All perfection is found in him,  
and all things were reconciled through him and for him,  
everything in heaven and everything on earth,  
when he made peace by his death on the cross.

The Church is his body,  
he is its head.  
He takes his place in heaven  
at your right hand,  
where we worship you with all of your creation, singing:

*from New Patterns for Worship, p474-475*

**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.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**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 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.

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Filled with awe at the wonders and works of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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 the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## Agnus Dei

**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.**



## Giving of Communion

*The president says this or another invitation to communion*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The president and people receive communion*

## Prayer after Communion

*Silence is kept*

*The president says the post-communion prayer*

Lord God of all creation,  
as your Son, when he had fed the multitude,  
instructed the disciples to gather up the fragments left over,  
so that nothing may be lost,  
so gather us, whom you have fed in this holy sacrament,  
fill us with love for your living world,  
and refresh us and the whole creation  
to serve and praise you for ever;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*All say*

**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

*All stand*

### Act of Eco Commitment

Noah made sacrifice to the Lord God, and the Lord said in his heart 'I will never again curse the ground because of humankind.'  
As we offer our own sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving, we pledge ourselves to honour the everlasting covenant between God, the creator of all things who loves the world, and the creation which responds in joyful praise.

*Genesis 8.21*

Let us pray.

**Lord God,  
the earth is yours and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it;  
hear our prayer, accept our service and receive our pledge:**

*Psalm 24.1*

May our *worship* honour your generous gifts; may we explore together our responsibilities to the creation of which we are a part, in preaching and teaching, in prayer and praise:  
**for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

May our *church buildings* be houses of prayer, temples to your glory, and signs of the renewing power of your grace to sustain and refresh all life; may our use and development of the resources we have inherited be an example of careful nurturing of discipleship and fruitful witness:  
**for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

May we allow the *land* we occupy to flourish in your care; may we share and protect both open space and managed earth, and build community with and through the land and all it sustains:  
**for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

May we live as the body of Christ, fostering relationships within our *local and global communities*, and raising awareness of how our actions affect our brothers and sisters across the world, having a particular care for the poorest and most vulnerable:  
**for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

May we show in *our lives* what we claim in our words, revealing in our discipleship our love for you, for each other, and for your world, following your command to bear fruit that will last:

*John 15.17*

**for the earth is yours and all that is in it.**

**Lord God,  
we pledge ourselves to your service in caring for your creation,  
that your kingdom may grow from the seed of hope  
into a tree of righteousness and justice for the world,  
and the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay  
and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*Romans 8.21*

## Blessing and Dismissal

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is the source of all goodness and growth,  
pour his blessing upon all things created,  
and upon you his children,  
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Common Worship: Times and Seasons p604*

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