



OPENING SENTENCES

Jesus said: 'Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them.' (Matt 18:20 NRSV)



THE INVOCATION

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



OPENING HYMN

TIS 474 Gather us in

**1. Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**3. Here we will take of the wine and the water,
here we will take of the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt of the earth.**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us for ever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

✠ THE CONFESSION OF SINS

**Children of God: Let us ask our Father to forgive us our sins, because
Jesus Christ is our Lord, who has died and risen again for us.**

**Lord God, our heavenly Father,
we confess to you that we are sinful,
and we have sinned against you in many ways:
in our thoughts and in our words;
in what we have done,
and in what we have failed to do.
Have mercy and forgive us.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit,
help us to obey you,
keep us from all evil,
and bring us to eternal life.
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
*Silence for reflection and self-examination.***

THE ABSOLUTION

God has had mercy on us,
he loves us and has given his Son to die for us.
So, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ,
I forgive you all your sins,
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Peace be with you. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE



LORD HAVE MERCY (KYRIE)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of
God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.



GLORIA/HYMN OF PRAISE

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 Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray for harmony in the church.

Thank you, heavenly Father,

that through your Son

you have reconciled us to yourself

and to one another.

Teach us to follow his example

by living at peace with each other.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns

with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.



ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN



THE FIRST READING

Exodus 12:1-14 The Lord institutes the Passover

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD. ¹² I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ "This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

PSALM 119: 33-40

Antiphon:

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes:
and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding,
that I may keep your law:
and observe it with my whole heart.
Lead me in the path of your commandments:
for I delight.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

Turn my heart to your decrees:
and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities:
give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise:
which is for those who fear you.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread:
For your ordinances are good.

See I have longed for your precepts:
In your righteousness give me life.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

THE SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-14 The debt of love

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off^{la} the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires



ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ: and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

Alleluia, alleluia.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15-20 Steps towards reconciliation

¹⁵ "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."



THE ADDRESS



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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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.**



OFFERING HYMN

TIS 650 Brother, sister let me serve you

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.



THE OFFERTORY

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us
a foretaste of the feast to come.**



OFFERING PRAYER

**Thank you, Lord, for having mercy on us
and accepting us as your people.
Help us to be more and more like you,
and work harmoniously with one another.
Teach us to show love to each other,
and to all people as they have needs.
Amen.**

WELCOMING FIRST COMMUNION CLASS TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

PRESENTATION

Today is a special day for St Paul's, and for these young people:

As they receive the Lord's Supper for the first time. Each one of these young people have been baptised in the name of the Triune God and have been prepared for the reception of the Lord's Supper.

These children have participated in the First Communion Course. They have learnt about the Old Testament background to Holy Communion in the Passover meal, examined the Last Supper and have seen how this

holy meal gives forgiveness of sins, life and salvation to those who trust in Jesus and his promises.

WORD OF GOD

Friends in Christ: When Jesus gave the bread to his disciples at the last supper, he said: 'Take and eat; this is my body'. When he offered the cup to them, he said: 'This is my blood of the new covenant. Drink of it, all of you.'

And St Paul adds: 'Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.'

RENUNCIATION AND CONFESSION

Since you are baptised and now want to receive the Lord's Supper, I ask you:

Do you believe that in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper Jesus gives you his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation?

Yes, I do.

ADMISSION TO SACRAMENT

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I now admit you to the sacrament of the altar, and invite you to receive the body and blood of our Lord with joy and thanksgiving.

PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, you love all people and call them to you. Receive these children at your table and nourish them with your body and blood.

Holy Spirit, strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ and equip them for service.

Loving Father, walk with them on their journey through life, and bring them to your heavenly home. Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord Jesus live in you and keep you holy + through his body and blood.

Amen.

RECEPTION

Members of St Paul's congregation: these young people have confessed their faith in the Triune God and have been admitted to the sacrament of the altar. Remember them in your prayers, encourage them to serve our Lord, and rejoice with them as they hear the word of God and receive the body and blood of Christ together with you. Set them a good example, so that they may live as God's people, and finally reach their heavenly home.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord + be with you.

Amen



THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.



THE PREFACE

It is indeed right and good,
Lord God, holy Father,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
On this day
he overcame death by his resurrection
and opened up for us
the way to eternal life with you.
And so, with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we adore and praise your glorious name:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed,
took bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said:
Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, after the supper,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



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.



THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**



LAMB OF GOD

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

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



DISTRIBUTION

Choir: *Teach me O Lord - Attwood*

Teach me, O Lord,
the way of Thy statutes,
and I shall keep it unto the end.

TIS 538 Feed us now

1. Feed us now, Bread of life,
in this holy meal;
let us know your love anew:
we hunger for you.
Feed us now, Bread of life,

come and live within;
Let your peace be ours today,
Lord Jesus, we pray.

2. Piece of bread, cup of wine:
Lord, this food is good:
love and mercy come to us
your promise we trust.
Piece of bread, cup of wine:
who can understand
how his mercy works in these?
Yet, Lord, we believe.

3. God is here, O so near,
nearer than our thoughts.
Stay with us where'er we go;
Lord, help us to grow.
God is here, O so near,
in this heaven's meal.
May we always feed on you –
on the bread that is true.

! THE DISMISSAL

The body of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you
in body and soul to life eternal.
Go in peace †. **Amen.**



POST-COMMUNION SONG

**Thank the Lord and sing his praise;
tell everyone what he has done.**

**Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**



THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through this healing gift;
and we pray that through it you would graciously strengthen us in
faith toward you and in love toward one another; through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**



THE BLESSING

**The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favour and give you † peace
Amen.**



THE COMMISSION

**Go in peace to live in harmony with one another.
Thanks be to God.**



CLOSING HYMN

TIS 531 Sent forth by God's blessing

1. Sent forth by God's blessing,
 our true faith confessing,
the people of God
 from his table take leave.

The supper is ended;
 may now be extended
the fruits of his service
 in all who believe.

The seed of his teaching,
 our hungry souls reaching,
shall blossom in action
 for all humankind.

His grace shall incite us,
 his love shall unite us
to work for his kingdom,
 his purpose to find.

2. With praise and thanksgiving
 to God ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life
 we will face.

Our faith ever sharing,
 in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours
 all those of each race.
 one light that has led us;
unite us as one in his life
 that we share.

Then may all the living
 with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ
 and his name that we bear.