

Second order of Holy Communion

Epecially when all ages are present

1. The call	D2
2. Hymn or song	D2
3. Prayer of praise	D2
4. Prayer of Confession and words of forgiveness	D4
5. Prayer for grace	D4
6. Hymn or song	D5
7. Readings	D5
8. Presentation of the Good News	D6
9. Hymn or song	D6
10. The invitation	D6
11. The story of the Lord's Supper	D7
12. The prayer of Jesus	D7
13. Hymn or song	D7
14. Offering	D7
15. Offering prayer	D8
16. The Thanksgiving	D8
17. The breaking of the bread and the blessing of the cup	D10
18. The Sharing	D11
19. The Peace	D11
20. Prayers	D11
21. Hymn or song	D13
22. Sending out and blessing	D13

Welcome, greetings and introductions.

Music may be rehearsed, news shared and any necessary explanations or instructions given.

The responses in this service are either well known or are based on repeating a line. The congregation need to know when a line is to be repeated. This can be indicated either by the worship leader or by having a designated 'cantor' who speaks only the lines to be repeated.

The call

The time is fulfilled,
and the kingdom of God has come near;
repent, and believe in the good news!

Mark 1:15

Hymn or song

Prayer of praise

Let us pray.
Loving God,
you create the world
and all the people.
You make bread and wine
and all good things.
You are holy and we praise you.

Jesus Christ,
child of God
and friend of us all,
you are with us today
as we break the bread
and share the wine.
You are Lord and we love you.

Holy Spirit,
breath of God,
moving in all creation,
you bring us close to God
and make us holy and strong.
You are here and we adore you.

A short Trinitarian verse of praise may be sung, preferably from memory (eg *Rejoice and Sing* 21-25).

or

Loving God,
in the company of all your people
we come to you,
and your presence is joy to us.
We come here
on this first day of the week
to meet with you and with each other
and to listen for your word for each one.
We are ready to break bread and to drink wine,
to remember again the stories of our faith,
and to be changed by being here with you.
As we worship
in the company of angels,
surrounded by the saints,
and embraced by your love,
let us give ourselves openly and freely,
as you give yourself to us,
in tenderness and love.
Loving God, Lord Jesus, Holy Spirit,
we worship you,
the one holy and eternal God.

Silence

Prayer of Confession and words of forgiveness

God of justice and forgiveness,
we confess that we live in a world
in which some are hungry even for bread,
many people are sad or hurt,
and there is much that is unfair and unjust.
We confess that in our own lives
we do not always do what is right
or turn away from what is
wrong.

We ask your forgiveness,
we claim your love and mercy,
and we ask for courage to make a new beginning.
In the name of Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Jesus said, 'Your sins are forgiven.'
Mark 2:9

He also said, 'Whoever does the will of God
is my brother and sister and mother.'
Mark 3:35

Prayer for grace

Eternal God,
we believe the good news
of your mercy and love,
and rejoice that we are forgiven and free.
Receive us as your children,
as brothers and sisters of Jesus,
part of your new community of love,

and give us strength to do your will,
today and always.

All **Amen.**

Hymn or song

Readings

A reading from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures)

Psalm

The psalm is 'lined out', the leader saying one line of text and the people repeating it. Psalm 117 is given as an example.

Praise the Lord, all you nations!

Psalm 117

All **Praise the Lord, all you nations!**

Extol him, all you peoples!

All **Extol him, all you peoples!**

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

All **For great is his steadfast love toward us,**

and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.

All **and the faithfulness of the Lord endures for ever.**

Praise the Lord!

All **Praise the Lord!**

A reading from a Gospel (and/or other New Testament book)

Let anyone with ears to hear listen!

Mark 4:9

All **Let anyone with ears to hear listen!**

Presentation of the Good News

(in ways appropriate for the day)

Hymn or song

The invitation

Jesus was often a guest.
He shared many meals with his friends,
and they long remembered his words at the table.
Though some disapproved of the company he kept,
Jesus ate and drank with all kinds of people
and showed everyone the love of God.
Wherever people met together
Jesus was glad to be welcomed and to be fed.
Today, we are the guests of Jesus.
He welcomes us,
whoever we are and whatever we bring,
and he will feed us at his table.
Old or young, rich or poor, joyful or in sorrow,
Jesus invites us
to share bread and wine with him,
to remember the story of his life and death,
and to celebrate his presence with us today.
On the night before he died,
Jesus shared a meal with 12 of his disciples
in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.
The Gospel writer tells us what happened that night.

The story of the Lord's Supper

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I tell you, I will never again drink the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

Mark 14:22-25

We are the friends and disciples of Jesus today.
He invites us to break bread together,
to remember him
and to pray that God's Kingdom will come.

The prayer of Jesus

Said together, each person using the version or language most familiar to them. The prayer may be said after the prayers of intercession instead.

Hymn or song

Offering

During or after the hymn or song the bread and wine and the offerings of the people may be brought to the table.

Offering prayer

We bring this bread and this wine
to the table of Jesus.

With them we bring ourselves,
all that we are and all that we own.

May the ordinary become holy,
and heaven be opened to the people of earth.

May God be blessed forever!

All **May God be blessed forever!**

The Thanksgiving

God is with us!

All **God is with us!**

We give thanks and praise to God!

All **We give thanks and praise to God!**

Loving God,
the world you made is beautiful
and full of wonder.

You made us, with all your creatures,
and you love all that you have made.

You gave us the words of your prophets,
the stories of your people through the generations,
and the gathered wisdom of many years.

You gave us Jesus, your Son,
to be born and to grow up
in difficult times when there was little peace.

He embraced people with your love
and told stories to change us all.

He healed those in pain
and brought to life those who had lost hope.

He made friends with anyone who would listen
and loved even his enemies.
For these things, he suffered.
For these things, he died.
And he was raised from death and lives with you forever.
You give us your Holy Spirit,
to teach and to strengthen us,
to remind us of Jesus Christ,
and to make us one in him.

For all these gifts we thank you,
and we join with all your people
on earth and in heaven,
in joyful praise:

Hosanna!

All **Hosanna!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

All **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

All **Hosanna in the highest heaven!** Mark 11:9b,10b

We praise you that we are here today,
around the table of Jesus.
We have heard the good news of your love;
the cross is the sign of your arms
stretched out in love for us
and the empty tomb declares your love
stronger than death.

Christ has died!

All **Christ has died!**

Christ is risen!

All **Christ is risen!**

Christ will come again!

All **Christ will come again!**

Send your Holy Spirit
upon this bread and wine,
and upon your people,
that Christ may be with us,
and we may be made ready to live for you
and to do what you ask of us,
today, and every day to come.

We make this prayer
through Jesus Christ,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
in the love of the Creator,
one God,
to whom be glory and praise forever,

All **Amen.**

The breaking of the bread and the blessing of the cup

Eat this bread. It is the bread of life.

Drink this wine. It is the cup of blessing.

The Sharing

The Elders (or those chosen) may take the bread and wine to the congregation, or the people may pass the bread and cup from hand to hand as they are gathered around the table. There may be singing during the sharing of the bread and wine.

Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words.

All **Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words.**

The Peace

Jesus said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Mark 9:35a-37

Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

Prayers

Let us pray.

Loving God,
you have fed us generously at this table,
as we have remembered Jesus
and rejoiced that he is with us today.
We are ready now to follow him,
and to be your people in the world.
May your Holy Spirit show us the way,
make us holy and fill us with love.

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church,
for the great Church throughout the world,
and for our own church community
gathered today for worship and prayer.
May we remember Jesus every day,
grow in understanding of him,
and learn to love you and our neighbours.

Fill us with your Spirit,
and make us people of peace,
of faithful prayer and loving action.
Lord, in your mercy,
All **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the whole world;
for the people, the animals,
the earth, the sea and the air.
May all that you have made
be sustained in peace and harmony,
and may all your creatures
share in the goodness of creation.
Bring healing to all who are suffering,
and may all your people share in hope
especially ...

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves,
for our families and our friends,

for all those we love
and for those we find it hard to love.
May young and old respect one another,
and the generations honour one another.
May nothing divide us or come between us,
but let your love bind us in affection.
Bless us with your peace,
that together we may praise you forever.

All Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All Glory to God
Glory to God

All Glory in the highest
Glory in the highest

All Today and always
Today and always
Amen.

Hymn or song

Sending out and blessing

Jesus said,
'Go home to your friends,
and tell them how much the Lord has done for you,
and what mercy he has shown you.'

Mark 5:19

The blessing of God be upon you,
the One who loves you,
the Christ who calls you,
the Spirit who makes you holy,
today and always.

All **Amen.**

Downloadable versions of this section, in PDF and Word format, can be found online here: www.urc.org.uk/worship-book