

St Andrew's Church, Bedford.



**ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE
EUCCHARIST IN LENT**

Welcome!

This is the most solemn season of the Church's Year. As Good Friday and Easter approach, we prepare to celebrate once more the central mysteries of our faith, the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and God. Taking our lead from his own preparation for ministry, the forty days of temptation and prayer in the wilderness, this is a time of austerity and self-examination; not for their own sake, but so that we can become more attentive to God and grow in faith, love and service.

How to follow the various parts of the service:

You can use this booklet to follow the service. The following symbols will help you to stand, sit or kneel at the times which are usual in this church; if you find it more comfortable to sit throughout, please do so.



For Younger Worshippers

Our children's groups meet in the Main Hall on Sunday mornings. Children very welcome to the group for games, stories, crafts and prayer. The children will join us in church before Communion.

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Opening Hymn



The Greeting

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

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All



Prayer of Preparation

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 love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'
The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang
all the law and the prophets.

All

**Amen.
Lord, have mercy.**



Confession

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him. Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.



All

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**



Kyrie

Lord, have mercy.

All ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All ♪ **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**



Absolution

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.



Collect



Readings

At the end of each the reader says

All This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Hymn



Gospel Reading

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to...

All ♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All ♪ **Praise to you O Christ.**

All ♪ **Bless the Lord, my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul,
who leads me into life.**



Sermon



Creed

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.



Intercessions

One of these responses may be used

All Lord, in your mercy or Lord, hear us
Hear our prayer. **Lord, graciously hear.**

At the end

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

The Peace



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.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn



Prayer over the Gifts

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**



Eucharistic Prayer

All ♪ The Lord is here. or The Lord be with you.
His Spirit is with us. ♪ **And also with you.**

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 thanks and praise.**



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:

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.**

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

All ♪ **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 [N and] 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.

All **Amen.**



The Lord's Prayer

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.**



Breaking of 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.**



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.**



Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed**



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.**

If you receive Communion at your own church, please do come and share bread and wine with us today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, come to altar rail, bringing this service book with you.



Hymns

Anthem



Prayer after Communion

The priest says the Post Communion Prayer for the day. All respond

All **God of our pilgrimage,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Refresh and sustain us
as we go forward with our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen**



Blessing

The priest uses this or another suitable blessing

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.



Hymn

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All

In the name of Christ. Amen.