

Christmas

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

John 8.12

The Gathering

We stand as the ministers enter during the opening hymn.

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

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

(or)

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
All **and also with you.**

Words of introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

The following prayer may be said

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.**

Prayers of Penitence

To prepare ourselves to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, the president invites us to call to mind and confess our sins.

A pause for silent reflection follows. After the silence, one of the following forms of confession is used

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

(or)

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The president gives the absolution using these or other suitable words

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life.

All **Amen.**

*The **Kyrie Eleison**, an ancient prayer for Divine mercy, may be said or sung.*

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis

The hymn of praise, Gloria in Excelsis, may be said or sung

All **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 with the words 'let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The president says the Collect, which expresses the theme of the day's celebration, and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

We sit for the readings. Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A psalm may follow the first reading.

A hymn may be sung.

Gospel Reading

We stand for the proclamation of the Gospel.

*The following or another suitable **acclamation** may herald the Gospel reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory.

All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

We sit for the sermon.

The Creed

We stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

The president introduces the Prayers of Intercession with these or similar words

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

These or other suitable responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

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

Alternatively, the following form of intercession may be used

Let us bring before God our needs and the needs of his world.

In faith we pray:
All **We pray to you, our God.**

For all people in their daily life and work:
All **For our families, friends and neighbours,
And for all those who are alone.**

For the just and responsible use of your creation:

All **For the victims of hunger, fear and injustice.**

For those in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble:

All **For those who minister to the sick,
the lonely, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God:

All **For our own needs and for the needs of others.**

Silence. During the silence we offer our own prayers to God.

In faith we pray,

All **We pray to you, our God.**

God our Saviour,

All **you know us and love us
and hear our prayer:
keep us in the eternal fellowship
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand for the Peace.

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

*During a **hymn** the gifts of bread and wine, which by the power of the Holy Spirit will become for us the body and blood of Christ, are brought to the altar. A collection for the work of the Church may also be taken.*

As the gifts of bread and wine are placed on the altar the following or other suitable prayers may be used

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

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

All kneel or sit.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

One of the following acclamations is used

Great is the mystery of faith:
All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

(or)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
All **Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

(or)

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [*N and*] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
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.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

(or)

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 the Bread

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.**

(or)

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,

All **we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes**

The Agnus Dei may be said or sung 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.**

(or)

All **Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

The president invites the people to receive communion. Those who have not been confirmed are invited to come to the altar for a blessing.

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.**

(or)

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The following prayer may be said

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 communion. Upon receiving communion the communicant replies

Amen.

During communion hymns and anthems may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

After a period of silence, a Post Communion prayer is said. One of the following prayers of thanksgiving is then said

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.**

(or)

All **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The president may use either of the following blessings, or another suitable blessing

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.

All **Amen.**

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

All **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became the Godbearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

(or)

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
and the blessing ...

All **Amen.**

*We stand for the final **hymn.***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.

Epiphany

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

cf. Timothy 3.16

The Gathering

*We stand as the ministers enter during the opening **hymn**.*

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

(or)

All Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

Words of introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

The following prayer may be said

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.

Prayers of Penitence

To prepare ourselves to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, the president invites us to call to mind and confess our sins.

A pause for silent reflection follows. After the silence, one of the following forms of confession is used

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.**

*Or the **Kyrie Eleison** may be used with these or other penitential sentences*

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president gives the absolution using these or other suitable words

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

*The **Kyrie Eleison**, an ancient prayer for Divine mercy, may be said or sung here if it has not already been incorporated in the prayers of penitence.*

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis

The hymn of praise, Gloria in Excelsis, may be said or sung

All **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 with the words 'let us pray' or a more specific bidding.

The president says the Collect, which expresses the theme of the day's celebration, and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

We sit for the readings. Either one or two readings from Scripture precede the Gospel reading.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A psalm may follow the first reading.

A hymn may be sung.

Gospel Reading

We stand for the proclamation of the Gospel.

*The following or another suitable **acclamation** may herald the Gospel reading*

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

We sit for the sermon.

The Creed

We stand to declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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

The president introduces the prayers of intercession with these or similar words

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

We kneel or sit for the prayers.

These or other suitable responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord, hear us
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

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

Alternatively, the following form of intercession may be used

The Wise Men knelt to worship our Saviour.
Let us also worship him with great joy,
and make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

Father, the wise men came from the east to worship your Son:
grant to Christians everywhere a true spirit of adoration.

Lord of truth:
All **light our way.**

Father, you are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords:
grant an abundance of peace to your world.

Lord of truth:

All **light our way.**

Father, though you were rich, for our sakes you became poor:
show your love for the poor and powerless,
and strengthen all who suffer.

Lord of truth:

All **light our way.**

Father, the wise men presented to your Son gold,
frankincense, and myrrh:
accept the gifts we bring, and the offering of our hearts
at the beginning of this new year.

Lord of truth:

All **light our way.**

Father, you are the King of Heaven,
the hope of all who trust in you:
give to *[N and all]* the faithful departed
the wonders of your salvation.

Lord of truth:

All **light our way.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of *[N and]* all your saints,
we commend ourselves and the whole creation
to your unfailing love.

Lord of truth:

All **hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy for ever.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand for the Peace.

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

*During a **hymn** the gifts of bread and wine, which by the power of the Holy Spirit will become for us the body and blood of Christ, are brought to the altar. A collection for the work of the Church may also be taken.*

As the gifts of bread and wine are placed on the altar the following or other suitable prayers may be used

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

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

All kneel or sit.

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.

One of the following acclamations is used

Great is the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

(or)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

All **Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

(or)

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

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

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

(or)

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 the Bread

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.**

(or)

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,

All **we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

The Agnus Dei may be said or sung 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.**

(or)

All **Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

The president invites the people to receive communion. Those who have not been confirmed are invited to come to the altar for a blessing.

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.**

(or)

Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The following prayer may be said.

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

The president and people receive communion. Upon receiving communion the communicant replies

Amen.

During communion hymns and anthems may be sung.

Prayer after Communion

After a period of silence, a Post Communion prayer is said. One of the following prayers of thanksgiving is then said

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.**

(or)

All **Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The president may use either of the following blessings, or another suitable blessing

May God the Father,
who led the Wise Men by the shining of a star
to find the Christ, the Light from Light,
lead you also in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

All **Amen.**

May God who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
give us a place with the saints in light
in the kingdom of his beloved Son.

All **Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ
shine in your hearts and fill your lives
with his joy and peace.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

(or)

Christ, the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory
and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom
and the blessing ...

All **Amen.**

*We stand for the final **hymn.***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The ministers and people depart.