

Appendix 3: Children's Prayer Book - regular print version

This prayer book is set up to be printed and stapled regularly. The image and words appear on the same page.

Holy Eucharist Rite 2

a guide especially designed for children





The people and the priest gather in the Lord's Name

We sing a hymn during the Processional. You can find the number on the Hymn Board or in your service leaflet.

We stand during the singing of the hymn. At the end of the hymn the priest says:
Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And we respond with:
And blessed be his (God's) kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.

Then the priest says:
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
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.*



We praise God by singing the *Gloria*

We all join in singing the hymn the angels sang to the shepherds on Christmas Eve:

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 priest reads the Collect for the Day

*We are now ready to listen to the readings for the day. The prayer that the priest says is called the “**Col**-lect”, and it is different each Sunday. It fits with the season of the church year, and helps us collect our thoughts to hear the readings. We say “**Amen**” at the end of the Collect. You may read the Collect in your Lectionary insert, or you can just listen. The prayer is very short.*



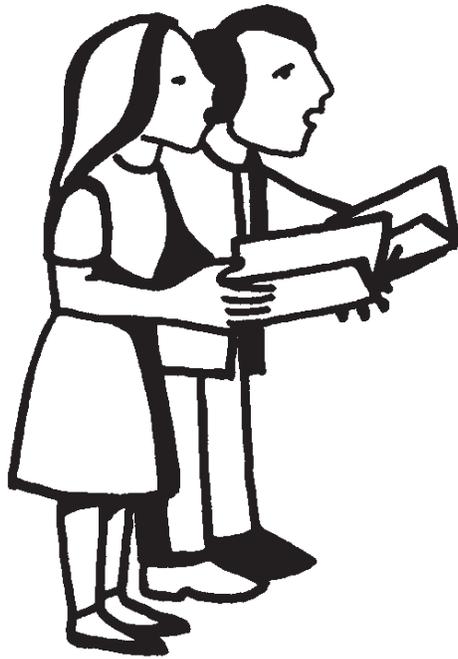
The Lessons

Now the Readings for the Day begin. We sit to hear the readings.

*The first lesson is usually from the Old Testament and is read by a Lay Reader from the lectern. The Old Testament lesson tells us something about God and God's children and how God continually saved them and promised them a Messiah. The Reader may say "The Word of the Lord" at the end of the reading. We say "**Thanks be to God**".*

The Psalm follows. We help in reading or singing the Psalm. Jesus sang the Psalms when he went to the synagogue.

*The Epistle follows and is read by a lay reader. This reading is taken from one of the epistles or letters written by the apostles after Jesus had gone back to heaven. It tells us something about the church to whom it was written or how we as Christians should live. The Reader may say "The Word of the Lord" at the end of the reading. We say "**Thanks be to God**".*



The Sequence Hymn

Now we all stand to sing a hymn. This hymn often retells one of the lessons or the Gospel we are getting ready to hear. During this hymn, the priest brings the Gospel Book off the altar and stands in front of the altar or in the aisle. Sometimes the acolytes who carry the torches and the cross come with the priest. We do these things to show how important the next reading is and to symbolize bringing the Gospel, the Good News Christ brought us, into the world.



The Gospel

The Gospel is read by the priest or a deacon. We are all standing.

The reader begins with:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.

Each year we read from a different Gospel: Matthew, Mark, or Luke. The Gospel of John is read on special occasions. The priest will always tell you which Gospel is being read.

We say

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel is the story of Jesus' ministry while on earth. We stand to show respect for this special reading.

At the end of the reading the priest or deacon says:

The Gospel of the Lord.

We say:

Praise to you Lord Christ.

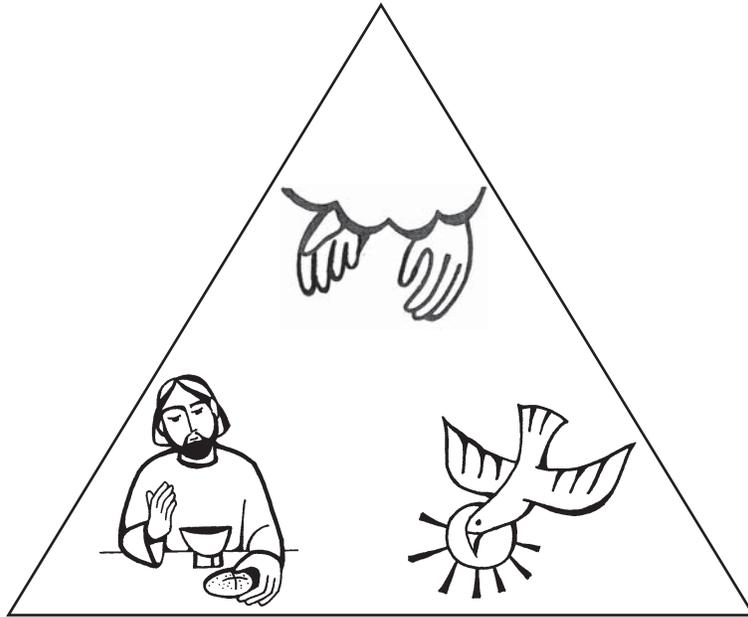


The Sermon

Following the Gospel, we all sit down.

The priest will now begin the sermon.

The sermon explains the readings of the day to us, or tells us something about the season of the church year. The sermon helps us understand God's message to us through the readings. The stories are ours too. They can tell us how we should live as Christians.



The Creed

Creed means “what we believe.” After hearing the stories of God and his love for us, we stand up together and say 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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.



The Prayers of the People

We pray for the World and the Church

After the Creed, we pray to God. This prayer is called “The Prayers of the People.” There are several different prayers from which to choose. The lay reader or priest who leads the Prayers will announce where you can find the prayers for today (they will probably be either in your service guide or in the Prayer Book). Many of the prayers have a response made after each petition.

No matter which of the Prayers we use, we always pray for the same things:

God’s family, the Church

Our nation, the world and its leaders

Peace and justice in the world

People who are sick, poor, or in trouble

People we love, including special observances like birthdays, anniversaries, people in seminary or mission work, and any special thanksgivings we may have

People who have died



The Confession

After the Prayers, we tell God we are sorry for the things we have done which are wrong. We ask God to forgive us. The Priest tells us that God does forgive us.

We may kneel and say:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.



The Peace

Now we are full of God's love and peace. We share this peace of the Lord with our neighbors.

The priest says:

The peace of the Lord be always with you!

We say:

And also with you.



The Offertory

God has given us everything we have. During the Offertory, we return a portion of our money to God. We also bring to the altar the bread and wine for the Communion service. And, we give God our hearts. The choir may sing a special piece now as an offering to God.

We may sing the Doxology, a song of praise to God after the ushers take the gifts to the altar.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



The Holy Communion

We now enter the second part of the Service: the Service of Holy Communion. We have heard the stories of God and God's love for God's people, we have heard stories of the early Church, and we have heard stories about Jesus' ministry. We have sung hymns of praise. We have prayed for God's church and the world, confessed our sins, and exchanged the peace of the Lord with our neighbors. Now we celebrate!

There are four Eucharistic prayers in Rite 2. They begin on page 361 in the Book of Common Prayer. The prayer used in this book is Prayer A.



Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord



The Great Thanksgiving

The priest stands at the altar and begins the service. We stand, too.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Then the priest says:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

At this point, the priest thanks God for what God has done for us, and for a particular part of Jesus' life which we are celebrating in that season of the church year. The priest ends with:

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all
the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.



The Sanctus

We now join in singing the song of praise of the seraphim in the presence of God. You can find this scripture in Isaiah 6:3. The last two sentences of the song were sung by the people as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. You can find this scripture in Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-40, or John 12:12-19.

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



The Prayer of Consecration

We may stand or kneel, as the priest begins the Prayer of Consecration. During this prayer, the priest asks God to bless and make holy the gifts of bread and wine, and that we may be made holy in order to receive this sacrament. Part of the prayer is Jesus' words at the Last Supper with his disciples in which he asks them to continue breaking bread and sharing the cup in remembrance of him. You can read this scripture in Matthew 26:26-30, Mark 14:22-26, Luke 22:14-23, and 1 Corinthians, 11:23-25.

While the priest is saying this prayer, he or she touches the cup of wine and the container of bread as they are mentioned. The priest also makes the sign of the cross over the bread and wine and towards the congregation.

We respond halfway through the prayer as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.



The Lord's Prayer

The priest ends the Prayer of Consecration by asking us to join in the prayer Jesus taught us, the Lord's Prayer.

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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.



The Breaking of the Bread

*The priest holds up a large wafer or piece of bread for all to see and breaks it, saying:
(Alleluia!) Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

*and we say
Therefore let us keep the feast. (Alleluia.)*

(The Alleluias are omitted in Lent and Advent.)



Share the Gifts of God

We might sing a hymn, the Agnus Dei (The Lamb of God).

*The priest faces the congregation and says:
The gifts of God for the people of God.*

Now we go to the altar rail to receive Communion. We approach the altar quietly and reverently. Many people bow their head or genuflect before going up to the altar. Some people can be seen making the sign of the cross as they kneel or stand, and as they leave. The priest gives us the bread, saying that is it the Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. The Chalice Bearer gives us the wine, saying that it is the Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

We respond with Amen after each.

As we leave the altar, we make sure that the person next to us is not receiving the wine. We wait until they have done so before we leave. We leave quietly and with joy. When we return to our pew, we give thanks for all that God has done for us.



We give thanks for God's gifts

After everyone has received Communion, the priest leads us in the prayer of Thanksgiving to God. We all pray together:

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Dismissal

We now join in singing a hymn as the choir, lay readers, chalice bearers, acolytes, and priests leave the church. At the back of the church, at the close of the hymn, the priest or deacon tell us that God's blessing is with us today and always, and that we should go out into the world to share God's love and peace.

We say Thanks be to God (Alleluia.)

Our family at Church has come together once more to hear the story, sing praises to God, and receive Christ's body and blood. Now it is time for us to go out into the world and carry this good news to others.



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