



St Paul &  
St Stephen  
Gloucester

*Welcome to St Paul and St Stephen's,  
Gloucester*



*Trinity Sunday*

## **Introduction**

The Parish Eucharist is the central act of worship for the parish of St Paul & St Stephen's. It combines words, music, colour and ritual so that our offering is from the heart, mind, body and senses. Thus the spirit is freed to worship our Creator and through this act of worship, the Holy Spirit renews us.

The word, Eucharist, means thanksgiving. It is one of the words which describes what Jesus did when he took bread and wine and gave thanks over them in the event we know as the Last Supper. Jesus also commanded us to continue to do this as the means by which we proclaim both to ourselves and for our parish and world what his life, death and resurrection mean. At the heart of this service, we express our communion with God whose love for all of creation is revealed in Jesus. We make this act both for ourselves and for those among whom we live and work.

## **Transformation**

I need your touch  
O my Creator!

The Father's touch of healing:  
pain released  
brokenness remade  
the marred image restored.

The Son's touch of love:  
frozenness melted  
loneliness assuaged  
tears turned to laughter.

The Spirit's touch of liberation:  
freedom from the past  
power for the present  
courage for the future.

Touch me  
O my Creator  
that I may be transformed.

*Pat Bennett*

WE GATHER

## **The Greeting**

*A minister introduces the service.*

We meet in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

## **Prayer of Preparation**

**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.**

## **We say sorry**

*A minister invites us to confess our sins.*

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

**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.**

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.  
**Amen.**

## **We praise God**

*We say together:*

**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**

*We remain standing while we say together the Collect, a prayer that sums up our worship today. It can be found on the front of the newsletter.*

## **WE LISTEN AND RESPOND**

### **Readings**

*There may be one or two readings from scripture, at the end of which the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

*The Procession is made with the Gospel book.*

*When the Gospel is announced, the reader says:*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

*Please sit.*

## **The Creed**

*We stand to affirm our faith together*

**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.**

**We pray for others**

*Please feel free to sit or kneel.*

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

*This response may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*The Intercessions may end with the following...*

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **WE CELEBRATE**

## **We share the Peace**

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.  
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.  
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.  
The peace of the triune God be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*A greeting of peace is exchanged.*

*The Collection is taken and the gifts of bread, wine and money are brought to the altar.*

*When the gifts are prepared, the President prays over the bread and wine.  
The response to each prayer is:*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For with your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit  
you are one God, one Lord.

All that you reveal of your glory,

the same we believe of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit, without any difference or inequality.  
We, your holy Church, acclaim you,  
Father of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
Three Persons we adore,  
one in being and equal in majesty.  
And so with angels and archangels,  
with cherubim and seraphim,  
we sing for ever of your glory:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

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

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:  
**Blessing and honour, glory and power be yours  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour has taught, so we pray:

**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.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

**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**

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 he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*We receive communion. Please come forward to the steps or the side rail if you are able. All are welcome but if you do not wish to receive, please come for a blessing instead.*

## **After Communion**

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:  
hold us firm in this faith,  
that we may know you in all your ways  
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,  
who are three Persons yet one God,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD**

## **Blessing**

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

