



St
Matthews
Haslington



St
Michaels
Crewe
Green



Christ
Church
Wheelock

United Benefice
Communion Service
During the period of mourning



This order of service, appropriately amended for the local context, can be used as the basis for a special service of Holy Communion, perhaps on the Sunday during the period of mourning.

Welcome (please stand)

Hymn (please stand)

The president or another minister says

‘I am the resurrection and the life’, says the Lord. ‘Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.’

The president says

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy
be with you.

The president may briefly introduce the service, ending with this prayer:

Almighty God,
you judge us with infinite mercy and justice and love everything you have
made.

In your mercy
turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life, and the sorrow of
parting into the joy of heaven; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The president says

God has shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of his glory in the face of Christ.
But we have this treasure in earthen vessels
to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us.

As we acknowledge our human frailty,
we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission, and confess them
before God our Father.

Silence is kept.

This or another authorized confession is used:

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart: Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

May God our Father forgive us our sins
and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom, where dust and ashes have
no dominion.

All **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made
in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life
of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth, for the love she received from
you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to
all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming
of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant
Elizabeth that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord; who
is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

READINGS

These or other readings may be used.

A reading from the book of Lamentations. (3.22-26, 31-33)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an
end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.
It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.
For the Lord will not reject for ever.

Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the
abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve
anyone.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 is said or sung.

I lift up my eyes to the hills; * from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, * the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not suffer your foot to stumble; * he who watches over you will not sleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel * shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you; *

the Lord is your shade at your right hand, So that the sun shall not strike you by day, * neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep you from all evil; *

it is he who shall keep your soul.

The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in, * from this time forth for evermore.

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians. (4.16-5.4)

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Alleluia, alleluia.

‘It is the will of him who sent me’, says the Lord,

‘that I should lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up on the last day’.

All Alleluia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. (6.35-40)

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

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

PRAYERS

which may include the following:

Eternal God, our heavenly Father, we bless your holy name for all that you have given us in and through the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth.

We give you thanks:

- for her love of family and her gift of friendship;
- for her devotion to this nation and the nations of the Commonwealth;
- for her grace, dignity and courtesy;
- and for her generosity and love of life.

We praise you for:

- the courage that she showed in testing times;
- the depth and of her Christian faith;
- and the witness she bore to it in word and deed.

We pray for our Sovereign Lord, the King and all the Royal Family,
that you might reassure them of your continuing love
and lift them from the depths of grief
into the peace and light of your presence.

Other prayers may be added.

All **God of mercy, entrusting into your hands all that you have made and rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people, we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our Saviour.**

Amen.

The president says

Jesus says:

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

The table is prepared and the bread and wine taken.

May all who are called to a place at your table follow in the way that leads to the unending feast of life.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you

All **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,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father,
heavenly King, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because through him you have given us the hope of a glorious resurrection;
so that, although death comes to us all,
yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life;
for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away; and when our
mortal flesh is laid aside
an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender
mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of
the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to con-
tinue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according
to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of
his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

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

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.
Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other
benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any
sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we
owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who
share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing;

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.**

Our Father...

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

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

AGNUS DEI may be said or sung.

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.**

The president and people receive communion. The president prays
Father in Heaven, whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem: grant to us in the days of our
pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven and united in
the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, the place of
your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

All **Amen.**

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest;
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth, and all humankind,
peace and concord;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

