

Ante-Communion for the Season After Pentecost (also called The Liturgy of the Word)

From the 1979 Book of Common Prayer pages 351-360, 406-407 and Enriching Our Worship 1 pages 50-56.

In the absence of a priest, all that is described herein, except for the concluding blessing, may be said by a deacon, or, if there is no deacon, by a lay reader. Adapt instructions about standing, kneeling, etc., as seems appropriate for your space.

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The people standing, the Presider says

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

or Blessed be our God

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

For ever and ever. Amen.

[If Confession of Sin is used, use the following form.

The Decalogue may be said (BCP 350), the people kneeling.

The Presider may read one of the following sentences

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. 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 neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8,9*

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4:14,16*

If a Confession of Sin is used, the Presider then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

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 Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

A deacon or lay person using the preceding form substitutes "us" for "you" and "our" for "your."]

When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung or said, all standing

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.

On other occasions the following is used

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. *or*
Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison. *or*
Kyrie eleison.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

The Presider says to the people

The Lord be with you. *or* God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect. Collects for the Sundays After Pentecost (Contemporary) are on pages 228-236 of the Book of Common Prayer. They may also be found at www.lectionarypage.net.

People **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Revised Common Lectionary Year B is on page 901-911 of the Book of Common Prayer or at www.lectionarypage.net

The people sit. One or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading (Lesson) from _____ .

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The word of the Lord. *or* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or the Reader may say Here ends the Reading (Epistle).

Silence may follow

A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest, or a lay reader if no Deacon or Priest is available, reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord (*or* Savior) Jesus Christ according to _____ .

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

If no Deacon or Priest is available, a lay reader may introduce and conclude it with

Reader A Reading from the Gospel according to _____ .

and

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon



On Sundays and other Major Feasts there follows, all standing

The Nicene 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.**

or the following

**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 of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped 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.**

The Prayers of the People

*Prayer is offered with intercession for
The Universal Church, its members, and its mission*

*The Nation and all in authority
The welfare of the world
The concerns of the local community
Those who suffer and those in any trouble
The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate)*

See the forms beginning on page 383 of The Book of Common Prayer or the following may be used.

Deacon or other Leader: Moved by the Holy Spirit to take up the work and mission of Christ, let us pray to God for the needs of all believers and of all peoples everywhere.

Leader: For the holy churches of God in every place, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Carlye our Bishop, for all lay leaders and clergy, and for the unity of all.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: In this season of the Spirit, we pray for new ways to grow our life in Christ with one another and in our witness of God's love to the whole world; for this holy gathering, even while separated, and for all who know one another in Christ.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all those who await the Sacrament of Confirmation, that we may soon gather again to celebrate their commitment to the life of Christ.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For the world and its leaders, for Joe, our President, Phil our Governor, [_____ our Mayor]; for our nation and its people.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all those who are suffering during this pandemic, for all victims of COVID-19, including those we name now . . . , for all who are sick and for those who are dying.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all those providing care at this time, for doctors, nurses, staff, technician, for social workers, counselors, therapists, for all first responders and for all essential workers, that you may safeguard them as they work on our behalf.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For research scientists and lab technicians; for the gift of vaccines; for all those continuing to work to improve prevention and treatment for this illness; for healing and restoration.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all who suffer from violence and discrimination rooted in white supremacy and racial injustice; for all those who benefit from systems of oppression, whether by intention or by circumstance; that all may be called to the vision of reconciliation and love that heals wounds of division and hatred.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all victims of violence, for those in danger and need, for the oppressed; for all those who face these concerns, now magnified; for those who suffer for any reason, for all other illnesses, for all those we name now . . . , we pray.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all the blessings of this life, for those you would name here . . . , and for all those we love.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: For all those who mourn, for those who grieve, separated at the last hour from their loved one; for those who face death without the consolation of family at their side; for all those who have died, including those we name now . . . , we pray.

People: **We pray to you, O God.**

Leader: Remembering our most glorious and blessed Virgin Mary and [_____ and] all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People: **To you, O gracious God.**

The following or some other concluding Collect is said by the Presider or other Leader

Almighty and most merciful God, grant that by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit we may be enlightened and strengthened for your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A hymn or anthem may then be sung, and the offerings of the people received.

This would be an appropriate time to give electronically.

The Lord's Prayer

The Presider then says

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**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.**

People and Celebrant

**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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Service may conclude with one of the following three choices:

The Grace

The Presider, lay or ordained, may say

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

or

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you. *or* The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

or

The Blessing

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people.