A Holy Communion Service for Lent



The Churches of Orsett, Bulphan and Horndon on the Hill

hobnob.org.uk

We take safeguarding seriously; details are displayed in all our churches and on the website.

Welcome to the Churches of Orsett, Bulphan and Horndon on the Hill.

Thank you for joining us!

If this is your first time at one of our churches, it's great to have you with us. Do make yourself known to the minister or to one of those greeting at the door.

This is a service of Holy Communion for Lent. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word 'lencten', which means Spring. The period of forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to commit themselves to a new spiritual discipline, to give something up or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Please join in with the responses in bold, the prayers, hymns and songs as you feel comfortable.

The church is fitted with an induction loop system; those with hearing aids should use the 'T' setting.

We hope you enjoy our worship.



If you would like to know more about the Christian faith or the life of our church community, please speak to Revd Sue or Revd Max. Or you can phone 01375 891254, visit us at www.hobnob.org.uk, or find us on Facebook or Twitter at @HOBNOBChurches

WELCOME

GREETING

We stand.

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you and also with you.

OPENING PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN or SONG

FOLLOWING THE SINGING, WE SIT AND YOUNG PEOPLE MAY GO INTO THEIR OWN GROUP, AFTER A PRAYER.

CONFESSION

We sit or kneel and spend a few moments bringing to mind anything for which we need to ask God's forgiveness.

Wash away my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. May the Father of all mercies cleanse *us* from *our* sins, and restore *us* in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT

The prayer for the day is said.

READING/S and/or DRAMA *We sit.*

After a reading: This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN or SONG

We stand.

GOSPEL READING/DRAMA

We usually remain standing, unless the Gospel is presented in drama form. When the Gospel is announced, the reader may say,

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ... Glory to you, O Lord.

And at the end: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

TALK We sit.

CREED

We stand to declare our belief in God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again? **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith; we believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS

We may sit or kneel as we pray for others.

One of the following responses, or an alternative, may be used.

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

Lord, hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end: Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

We stand and the Peace is introduced with the following, or another suitable sentence.

Jesus says, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.' *John 14:27.* The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace, by shaking hands with one another, or using sign language, and saying, 'Peace be with you.'

HYMN or SONG

We stand and, during this hymn or song, the bread and wine are placed upon the table and a collection is taken for the work of the Church.

After the hymn or song, the collection is received and a prayer said.

We use the following Eucharistic Prayer or Eucharistic Prayer 1, on page 8.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER H

We remain standing.

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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son. **You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us. He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said, 'Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.' **Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son. As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven,

by saying,

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.

or by singing one of the following.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God almighty. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, holy is the Lord. *The congregation sits and the service continues with the Lord's Prayer, on page 10.*

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1

We remain standing. The minister will indicate whether we will use the responses in brackets.

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 always right to give you thanks, God our Creator, loving and faithful, holy and strong.

You made us and the whole universe, and filled your world with life. [Holy, Holy, Holy.]

You sent your Son to live among us, Jesus our Saviour, Mary's child.

He suffered on the cross; he died to save us from our sins; he rose in glory from the dead. [Holy, Holy, Holy.]

You send your Spirit to bring new life to the world, and clothe us with power from on high. And so we join the angels to celebrate, by saying,

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.

or by singing one of the following.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God almighty. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was and is and is to come. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, the whole earth is full of his glory, holy is the Lord.

The congregation sits.

Father, on the night before he died, Jesus shared a meal with his friends. He took the bread and thanked you.

He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After the meal, Jesus took the cup of wine. He thanked you, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, the new promise of God's unfailing love. Do this to remember me.'

Jesus Christ has died. Jesus Christ has died.

Jesus Christ is risen. Jesus Christ is risen.

Jesus Christ will come again. Jesus Christ will come again. Father, as we bring this bread and wine, and remember his death and resurrection, send your Holy Spirit, that we who share these gifts may be fed by Christ's body and his blood.

[Amen, Amen, Amen.]

Pour your Spirit on us that we may love one another, work for the healing of the earth, and share the good news of Jesus, as we wait for his coming in glory. [Amen, Amen, Amen.]

For honour and praise belong to you, Father, with Jesus your Son, and the Holy Spirit: one God, for ever and ever. [Amen, Amen, Amen.]

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We sit or kneel.

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

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD) *We say the following.*

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

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

DURING THE COMMUNION, YOUNG PEOPLE MAY RETURN.

Everyone who is accustomed to receiving the bread and wine is welcome to take communion. If you do not wish to take communion, you are warmly invited to come forward for a blessing, bringing this booklet with you.

If you are unable to come to the communion rail, and would like to receive the bread and wine, or a blessing, please notify one of the stewards and the minister will be very happy to come to you.

We have gluten-free wafers available. Please tell the minister, at the time of receiving communion, if you would like one of these.

As we share in communion, hymns or songs will be sung, the words for which can either be found in a hymn/song book, or will be printed elsewhere. Numbers, or details of where to find the words, are displayed on the hymn/song board. Please feel free to join in.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE MAY INVITE YOUNG PEOPLE TO SHARE WHAT THEY HAVE DONE.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL *We stand.*

Jesus, Lord of time, hold us in your eternity.

Jesus, image of God, travel with us the life of faith.

Jesus, Lord of tomorrow, draw us into your future.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among *you*, and remain with *you* and those *you* love, now and always. **Amen.**

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

HYMN or SONG



Please stay after the service for fellowship and refreshments.

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