A Holy Communion Service for Easter



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 Holy Communion Service for Easter Day, when we celebrate the joy of Jesus' Resurrection.

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 the service.



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: @HOBNOBChurches

WELCOME

GREETING

We stand.

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

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us. Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise you that we can worship you not simply as the crucified Christ but as our risen Lord and Saviour. We praise you that death was not the end but a new beginning, not simply for you but for us! We praise you for this time of joy, thanksgiving and rejoicing, a time that speaks of victory, renewal and hope.

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.

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven. In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD

We stand to sing a song, offering glory to God.

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 the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe.

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, Lord, hear us,

hear our prayer. 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 stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you; why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet. Touch me and see.' Luke 24:36-39.

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 by 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 2, on page 8.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER E

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory.

He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation proclaim for ever the hymn of your glory,

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.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again, he praised you, gave it to them and said, '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.'

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

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

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The service continues with the Lord's Prayer, on page 11.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

We remain standing.

The minister will indicate whether we will use the questions and answers 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.

[Question: Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.]

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish.

One of the following is used.

- You give us sun and moon and star-lit sky, everything that gives us light, light for our eyes, our hearts, our minds.
- You give us the fish in the sea, the birds of the air; and every plant and tree; the life that sleeps in the winter earth, and awakens again in the spring.
- You give us friends and families, busy streets for young and old, the life of an earthly city fulfilled in your city to come.
- You give us your love, even when things go wrong.
 Jesus knew hurt and pain.
 Through him you wipe away our tears,
 and fill us with your peace.
- You give us happy times and things to celebrate.
 In these we taste your kingdom,
 a feast for all your children.

You made us all, wonderfully different, to join with the angels to praise you, 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.

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

[Question: Why do we share this bread and wine?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.]

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying, 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying, 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

[Question: How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.]

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with [N and] all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever.

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

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.

GIVING OF COMMUNION

God's Holy gifts for God's Holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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.

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; 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 the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

HYMN or SONG

Please stay after the service for fellowship and refreshments.

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