

An Order for the Distribution of Holy Communion by a Deacon in Public Worship,

Anglican Standard Text, Adapted

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The Acclamation

The People standing, the Deacon says this or a seasonal greeting.

Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

The Deacon prays (and the People may be invited to join)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
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.*

The Summary of the Law

Then follows the Summary of the Law, or The Decalogue.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as
yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.
Matthew 22:37-40

The Kyrie

The Deacon and people pray

Lord, have mercy upon us.		Lord, have mercy.		Kyrie eleison.
<i>Christ, have mercy upon us.</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>Christ, have mercy.</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>Christe eleison.</i>
Lord, have mercy upon us.		Lord, have mercy.		Kyrie eleison.

or this

The Trisagion

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

The Gloria in Excelsis

The Gloria or some other song of praise may be sung or said, all standing. It is appropriate to omit the song of praise during penitential seasons and days appointed for fasting.

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 of the Day

The Deacon says to the People

 The Lord be with you.
People And with your spirit.
Deacon Let us pray.

The Deacon prays the Collect.

People Amen.

The Lessons

One or more lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from _____.

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each lesson, the Reader may say

 The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Or the Reader may say Here ends the Reading.

Silence may follow.

A psalm, hymn or anthem may follow each reading.

All standing, the Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to _____.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

On Sundays, other Major Feast Days, and other times as appointed, all stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Deacon first saying

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Deacon and People

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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],¹
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

The Deacon or another person appointed says these prayers, or the Prayers of the People in the Renewed Ancient Text.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially *N*, our *President/Sovereign/Prime Minister*, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, *and especially to your servant(s) N, our Archbishop/Bishop/Priest/Deacon, etc.*, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Silence

Reader Lord in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Silence

Reader Lord in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Silence

Reader Lord in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, [especially _____,] that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we ask you to give us

grace to follow the good examples of [N., and] all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Silence

Reader Lord in your mercy:

People Hear our prayer.

Additional prayers may be added.

The Deacon concludes with the following prayer

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Deacon may then read the Exhortation.

The Confession and Absolution of Sin

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

or

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker and judge of us all:

We acknowledge and repent of our many sins and offenses,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed
against your divine majesty,
provoking most justly your righteous anger against us.

We are deeply sorry for these transgressions;
the burden of them is more than we can bear.

Have mercy upon us,

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;

for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may evermore serve and please you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Deacon remains kneeling and says

Grant your faithful people, merciful Lord, pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Comfortable Words

The Deacon, standing, may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2:1-2

The Peace

Deacon The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with your spirit.

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

The Offertory

Before the offering the Deacon says,

Brothers and sisters, in the Gospel of Saint Luke we hear:

At supper with his disciples on the night before he was betrayed Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks he said, 'Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Today, we receive bread and wine consecrated at a previous service of this congregation [*or of N. of congregation*] so that through Jesus' body and blood we might dwell in him and he in us.

I invite you, therefore, to....

The Deacon then says one of these sentences of Scripture.

Ascribe unto the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Psalms 96:8

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

During the Offertory a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. The Deacon prepares the Holy Table for the celebration. Representatives of the congregation may bring the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Deacon.

The People stand while the offerings are presented. The following may be said.

Deacon Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People And of your own have we given you.
1 Chronicles 29:11, 14

The Distribution of Holy Communion

The People remain standing. The Deacon from his or her place in the chancel them and sings or says

The Lord be with you.
People And with your spirit.
Deacon Let us pray.

The deacon may continue with one or more of the following prayers:

- ❖ Lord Jesus Christ, by the Father's plan and by the working of the Holy Ghost, of your own free will you died, and mercifully redeemed the world from sin and everlasting death. We adore and venerate you as much as ever we can, though our love is so cold, our devotion so poor. Thank you for the good gift of this your holy Body and Blood, which we desire to receive as cleansing from sin, and for a defense against it.
- ❖ Lord we acknowledge that we are far from worthy to approach and touch this sacrament; but we trust in that mercy which caused you to lay down your life for sinners, that they might be justified and because you gave yourself willingly as a holy sacrifice to the Father.
- ❖ Make us O Lord, to be worthy to be incorporated into your body, which is the Church. And at the resurrection refashion the body of our humiliation according to the body of your glory, and we shall rejoice in you forever, to your glory, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.ⁱ

The Lord's Prayer

The Deacon then says

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

Deacon and People together pray

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.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And 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 Prayer of Humble Access

Deacon and People together may say

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up
the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord,
whose character is always to have mercy.
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Agnus Dei

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here

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 your peace.

The Ministration of Communion

Facing the People, the Deacon may say the following invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.]

The Bread and Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ, [which was given for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith, with thanksgiving.]

The Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, [which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's Blood was shed for you, and be thankful.]

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.

The Post Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Deacon says

Let us pray.

Deacon and People together say the following, or the Post Communion Prayer in the Renewed Ancient Text

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and
goodness towards us:
that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope,
of your everlasting kingdom.
And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,
to assist us with your grace,
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Dismissal

The Deacon may dismiss the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

or this

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

or this

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

or this

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" is added to any of the dismissals. It may be added at other times, except during Lent and on other penitential occasions.

The People respond

Thanks be to God. [Alleluia, Alleluia.]

ⁱ adapted from *Prayers and Meditations of Saint Anselm with the Prologion*. (Benedicta Ward, trans.) London UK: Penguin Books 1976, pp. 100-101