



Easter Sunday
April 12, 2020

CONNECT CARD

(Tear page and drop in offering basket)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Please check all that apply:

- Visitor
- Add me to the weekly Parish Notes e-mail list
- I'd like to know more about Christ Church
- I'd like to know what it means to be a real follower of Jesus Christ
- I'd like to know more about the Anglican Church in North America
- I'd like to talk to someone about questions I have about Jesus Christ

(Fold along this line before dropping in offering basket)

Please provide any prayer request you may have for our ordained ministers.

Please check this box if you would like us to share this prayer request with our Prayer Team, who pledges full confidentiality.

WE VALUE YOUR CHILDREN!

Nursery: Christ Church Lewisville is providing nursery for children ages infant through 4. Nursery care is provided throughout the service. If you have a child in diapers, please leave all the necessary supplies with our wonderful nursery care providers.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Children from pre-school through age 12 are invited to participate in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd where they will enjoy a structured time of prayer, Bible teaching, and Christian formation. Children will be dismissed to leave with their teachers early in the service and then return for Holy Communion. If you prefer, your children are welcome to stay with you during the service. For more information contact Mrs. Dana Huffman (dana@christchurchws.org).

Youth Ministry: For more information contact Fr. Keith (keith@christchurchws.org).



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and genuine repentance for sin are welcomed at the Lord's Table. Any person who has doubts about his or her preparedness to receive the Sacrament is urged to seek godly advice and direction as soon as is possible. You may desire to read through the Exhortation provided at the end of this service guide to assist in discerning your readiness to receive Holy Communion.

If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please feel free to receive the bread only. Simply cross your hands over your chest when you pass the chalice bearer by to indicate you do not wish to receive the wine. The ancient Christian teaching is that the full grace of the Sacrament is received whether one receives only the consecrated bread or both bread and wine.

If you are not receiving Holy Communion today you are still invited to come forward to receive a blessing. When you come forward, if you are not receiving the sacrament, please indicate this by crossing your arms in front of your chest. If you prefer you may remain in your pew and offer a prayer such as those provided at the end of this service guide for those who are not receiving the Sacrament.

During the distribution of Holy Communion we also encourage those who desire special prayer for healing or other needs to pray with our prayer team.

**IN REVERENCE TO GOD, PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES.
THANK YOU!**



Easter Sunday

Our worship service is rooted in the practices and teachings of the Bible and the early Church. We pray for and expect the Holy Spirit to be present and powerful among us as we are drawn into the never ceasing worship that is offered to God in heaven.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!
Lo the sun's eclipse is over, Alleluia!
Lo He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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

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

(spoken)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us!

Lord, have mercy upon us.

SONGS OF PRAISE

Worship Christ the Risen King

Rise O Church and lift your voices
Christ has conquered death and hell
Sing as all the earth rejoices
Resurrection anthems swell
Come and worship, come and worship
Worship Christ the Risen King

See the tomb where death had laid Him
Empty now its mouth declares
“Death and I could not contain Him”
For the throne of life He shares
Come and worship come and worship
Worship Christ the Risen King

Hear the earth protest and tremble
See the stone removed with pow’r
All hell’s minions may assemble

But cannot withstand His hour
He has conquered, He has conquered
Christ the Lord the Risen King

Doubt may lift its head to murmur
Scoffers mock and sinners jeer
But the truth proclaims a wonder
Thoughtful hearts receive with cheer
He is risen, He is risen
Now receive the Risen King

We acclaim Your life O Jesus
Now we sing Your victory
Sin or hell may seek to seize us
But Your conquest keeps us free
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph
Worship Christ the Risen King

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And with your spirit

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

During our service we will use the prayers and Scripture readings specifically selected for this day in the Christian year.

The Celebrant (presiding minister) leads us in the **collect**, a prayer that "collects" our hearts and guides our thoughts into the presence of God.

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader: A reading from Acts 10:34-43.

³⁴ So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality,
³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), ³⁷ you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 118:14-17, 22-24

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

One of the characteristics of our worship is the abundance of **Scripture** that is read. We believe that we encounter God through his inspired, authoritative Word.

- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The **Psalms** are the hymnbook of the people of God. They express our deepest longings, joys, and sorrows. Christians see many of the Psalms as directly related to Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit pray this Psalm through you as we speak these words together.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader: A reading from Colossians 3:1-4.

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Christ is Risen

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

We stand during the **Gospel** reading because the Gospels represent Christ's presence in the Church through his Word.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John (20:1-18).

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ!

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Christ is Risen

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

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

**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 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,
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

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

Reader: For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Reader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Reader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Reader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader: For all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions.

Reader: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Reader: We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died in Christ, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence.

Reader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

You are encouraged to add your own petitions and thanksgivings either silently or aloud during the **Prayers of the People**.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God:

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.

Many people kneel during the **Confession of Sin** as a sign of humility and repentance before God. Confession and repentance are the means God gives us for receiving the forgiveness made possible through Jesus Christ.

**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 ABSOLUTION

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.**

During the **Absolution** the priest declares God's forgiveness as promised in the Bible for all who confess and turn away from their sins. (1 John 1:9)

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

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. *Mat. 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. *Jn. 3:16.*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. 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 Jn. 2:1-2.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with your spirit.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

All Things New

Come broken and weary
Come battered and bruised
My Jesus makes all things new
All things new

The **Peace** reminds us that we must reconcile with one another before we receive Holy Communion (Matthew 5:23). "Peace be with you" or "God's peace" are some of the phrases used as we greet one another.

Come lost and abandoned
Come blown by the wind
He'll bring you back home again
Home again

*Rise up, O you sleeper, awake
The light of the dawn is upon you
Rise up, O you sleeper, awake
He makes all things new
All things new*

Come burning with shame
Come frozen with guilt
My Jesus, he loves you still
Loves you still *[chorus]*

*The world was good
The world is fallen
The world will be redeemed*

So hold on to the promise
The stories are true
Jesus makes all things new

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true

The prayer of the **Great Thanksgiving** (also known as the “Anaphora” or the “Canon of the Mass”) is taken directly from the words of the Bible and from the earliest Christian services. In this prayer we recall the scope of salvation history, thanking God for his mighty acts in creation and redemption.

One of the benefits of praying this prayer weekly is that these words are planted in our hearts. Thus we are better equipped to share our faith with those who have yet to come to Christ.

Although the prayer is prayed by the priest as the representative minister, the whole gathered people of God offer up this prayer. The great “Amen” at the end of the prayer is said forcefully by the people showing that this is indeed their prayer offered to God.

Paschal Lamb, who was offered for us, and has taken away the sin of the world; who by his death, and by rising to life again has won for us everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.**

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given 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."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit + to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Sanctify us + also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, so that he may dwell in us and we in him. And bring us with all your

saints into the fullness of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

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.

THE FRACTION

Celebrant: Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed once for all upon the cross;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE AGNUS DEI

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 Celebrant 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 **Fraction** is not a set of words, but an action and takes place in silence. “Christ our Passover” recalls Jesus as the Passover Lamb offered once for the forgiveness of sins (Hebrews 9:27-28).

Along with most Christians down through the ages and across the world we believe that we truly encounter Jesus in this meal. Communion is not merely a symbol. It also brings us into the real presence of Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).

All baptized followers of Jesus Christ who come with faith and repentance are welcome to receive Holy Communion in our church.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus,

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul,

and since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.

I + unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people,

gathered around every altar of your Church,

and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

Praise the King

There's a reason why the curse of sin is broken
There's a reason why the darkness runs from light
There's a reason why we stand here now forgiven
Jesus is alive

There's a reason why we are not overtaken
There's a reason why we sing on through the night
There's a reason why our hope remains eternal
Jesus is alive

Praise the King, He is risen
Praise the King, He's alive
Praise the King, death's defeated
Hallelujah He's alive
Hallelujah He's alive

There's a reason why our hearts can be courageous
There's a reason why the dead are made alive
There's a reason why we share His resurrection
Jesus is alive (Oh He's alive)

The grave could not ignore it
All of heaven's roaring
Hell, where is your victory
Death where is your sting
The world cannot ignore it
When all the saints are roaring
Hell, where is your victory
Death where is your sting

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together say the following

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Crown Him with many crowns, the lamb upon His throne,
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake my soul and sing of Him who died for Thee,
And hail Him as Thy matchless King thru all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love, behold His hands and side:
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of Heav'n, one with the Father known,
One with the Spirit thru Him giv'n from yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, for thou for us hast died,
Be thou, O Lord, thru endless days adored and magnified.
Be thou, O Lord, thru endless days adored and magnified.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Suggested prayers for those not receiving Holy Communion

O Lord, teach me to seek you, and reveal yourself to me when I seek you. For I cannot seek you unless you first teach me, nor find you unless you first reveal yourself to me. Let me seek you in longing, and long for you in seeking. Let me find you in love, and love you in finding. Amen.

—Saint Ambrose of Milan, c. 340 - 397

Heavenly Father, I am in a far country, destitute and distant from you. Create in me the desire and grant me the strength to arise and return to you. And seeing my return, Father, run quickly to embrace me, fall on my neck and kiss me, and claim me as your beloved child who was dead, but is alive again, who was lost but is now found. Amen.

—From Luke 15:11-32

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and for the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

— The Book of Common Prayer

Lord Jesus, I believe that you offer yourself in this Sacrament. I desire to love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you in Holy Communion, be present to me by your Word and the fellowship of your Church. As though you have already come, by faith I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Never permit me to be separated from you, for your great love's sake.

THE EXHORTATION

Dearly beloved in the Lord: if you intend to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, you must consider how Saint Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, exhorts us all diligently to examine ourselves before we presume to eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup. For as the benefit is great, if we receive that holy Sacrament with a truly penitent heart and lively faith, spiritually eating the flesh of Christ and drinking his blood, so that we might be made one with Christ and he with us; so also is the danger great, if we receive these gifts unworthily. For then we become guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of Christ our Savior, and we eat and drink to our own condemnation.

Therefore, judge yourselves lest you be judged by the Lord. First, examine your life by the rule of God's commandments. Wherever you have offended, either by thought, word, or deed, confess your sins to Almighty God, with the full intention to amend your life. Be ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs you have done to others; and also be ready to forgive others who have offended you: for otherwise, if you unworthily receive Holy Communion, you will increase your own condemnation. Therefore, repent of your sins, or else do not come to God's Holy Table.

If you have come here today with a troubled conscience, and you need help and counsel, come to me, or to some other priest, and confess your sins; that you may receive godly counsel, direction, and absolution. To do so will both satisfy your conscience and remove any scruples or doubt.

Above all, each of us should give humble and hearty thanks to God for the redemption of the world by the death and passion of our Savior Jesus Christ. He humbled himself, even to death on a cross, for us sinners who lay in darkness and in the shadow of death, that he might make us children of God, and exalt us to everlasting life.

Because of his exceedingly great love for us, our Savior Jesus Christ has instituted and ordained these holy mysteries as pledges of his love, and for a continual remembrance of his death and passion, to our great and endless comfort.

To him, therefore, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, let us give continual thanks, as is our duty and our joy; submitting ourselves entirely to his holy will and striving to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. *Amen.*

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