

The Parish Churches of S Philip and S Augustine and S Matthew with S Mary the Virgin Newcastle

Liturgy of the Word and Spiritual Communion for Saint John the Evangelist

Notes

This service is intended for use on Sundays and some feast days. It is a version of the Liturgy of the Word, which turns on the Our Father into an act of spiritual communion, undertaken in the words of the Anima Christi.

The bulk of the service inheres in the readings and the intercessions. These will be sent out each week.

The Te Deum is included at the end, since it is said at the end of the Office on Sundays outside Lent and Advent. I have used the Tudor version, since the words have a greater umph.

+ In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hear what Saint John says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the Truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just; and will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness:

God our Father, You sent Your Son full of Grace and Truth; forgive our failure to receive Him: Kyrie eleison.

Jesus our Saviour, You were born in poverty and laid in a manger; forgive our greed and rejection of Your ways: Christe eleison.

Your servant Mary responded joyfully to Your call; forgive the hardness of our hearts: Kyrie eleison.

* * *

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to God on high. And in earth peace, goodwill towards men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high, + in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray:

Merciful Lord, cast Your bright beams of light upon the Church: that, being enlightened by the teaching of Your blessed Apostle and Evangelist Saint John, we may so walk in the light of Your Truth that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life: in and through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, Who lives with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

A Reading from the first Letter of Saint John.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life -- the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us -- that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete.

The Lord is king: let the earth rejoice; ◆ let the multitude of the isles be glad.

Clouds and darkness are round about him; • righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

The mountains melted like wax at the Presence of the Lord, ◆ at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

The heavens declared his righteousness, ◆ and all the peoples have seen his glory.

Light has sprung up for the righteous ◆ and joy for the true of heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, • and give thanks to his holy name.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint John.

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene 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." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed:

The **Intercessions** follow; these will include petitions from the weekly cycle; and may include the Covid 19 prayer in the notes; at the end:

These and the prayers of my Christian community I lay before God in union with our Lady, Saint Matthew, Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Philip, Saint Augustine and all the saints:

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed by 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, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

In place of receiving Holy Communion, you should use this prayer:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;
Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, refresh me;
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesu, hear me.
Within Thy wounds, hide me.
Do not permit me to be separated from Thee;
From the malicious enemy defend me,
In the hour of my death call me
And bid me come to Thee,
That with Thy saints I may praise Thee;
For ever and ever. Amen.

It is appropriate that a time of reflexion follows. If, like the Vicar, you have a mind that easily lured by the frivolous and ephemeral, you might use the following to help stay on task:

The Life, which God's Incarnate Word Lived here below with men, Three blest Evangelists record With Heav'n-inspir-ed pen:

(continued over the page)

John soars on high, beyond the three, To God the Father's Throne; And shows in what deep Mystery The Word with God is One.

Upon the Saviour's loving breast Invited to recline, 'Twas thence He drew, in moments blest, Rich stores of Truth Divine.

And thence did that angelic love His inmost spirit fill Which, once enkindled from above, Breathes in his pages still.

Jesu, the Virgin's holy Son, We praise Thee and adore, Who art with God the Father One And Spirit evermore.

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that the Word made flesh proclaimed by Your Apostle John may, by the celebration of these Holy Mysteries, ever abide and live within us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE praise thee, O God: we acknowledge thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship thee: the Father everlasting. To thee all Angels cry aloud: the heavens, and all the powers therein.

To thee Cherubin and Seraphin: continually do cry, Holy, Holy; Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty: of thy glory.

(continued over the page)

The glorious company of the Apostles : praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets: praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs: praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world: doth acknowledge thee:

The Father: of an infinite Majesty;

Thine honourable, true: and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory: O Christ.

Thou art the everlasting Son: of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man: thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death: thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God: in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come: to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants: whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with thy Saints: in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people : and bless thine heritage.

Govern them: and lift them up for ever.

Day by day: we magnify thee;

And we worship thy Name: ever world without end.

Vouchsafe, O Lord: to keep us this day without sin.

O Lord, have mercy upon us: have mercy upon us.

O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us: as our trust is in thee.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

+ 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.