

Holy Communion

National Reconciliation Week

Gathering in the Name of God

We gather in the name of God: the One who was before all that is, the One who spoke creation into being, and the One who nourishes its potential. **Amen.**

A Welcome is offered including an acknowledgement of country

Dear God of all Grace, since the beginning of time many peoples have gathered on this land. Since that time more have gathered from all parts of the world. At times this gathering has been in a spirit of peace but many times in a spirit of conflict and conquest. Help us to recognise the differences and to restore that spirit of peace and harmony in which all people can live. Help us now Lord to gather together in prayer and praise in your Name, to reach out for your peace, and see your justice done. We thank you Lord for being able to gather in our diversity on this land, which has been cared for by the *Wurundjeri* people generation after generation. In our diversity help us to reconcile ourselves to you and to each other by this gathering. Bless this time and what we do in the name of the one who knows us and brings us together Jesus Christ. AMEN.

OR

“We wish to honour Almighty God as sovereign over all the earth. To state that all people are important to God and have historically been given custodianship of certain land. Accordingly we wish to pay due respect to the original custodians of this land on which we meet (the (insert the name of local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander group if you know it) people). We acknowledge the vital contributions that Indigenous peoples of Australia have made and still make to the nation that we share.”

Come and worship the holy and glorious Trinity, as we pray together:

God of the feast,

your Wisdom calls us,

your Word teaches us

and you feed us with your life.

Give us grace to welcome one another

as you have welcomed us in Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Confession

God, you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.
Tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgement.

Silence may be kept

Draw us tenderly into your embrace as we confess our sins:

O God, you have searched us out and known us,
and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned: we
have used our power to dominate and our weakness to manipulate; we
have evaded responsibility and failed to confront evil; we have denied
dignity to ourselves and to each other, and fallen into despair.

**We turn to you, O God:
we renounce evil;
we claim your love;
we choose to be made whole.**

*Wash one another's hands as a symbol of mutuality and forgiveness.
While washing one another's hands we say for each other: "Your sins are
forgiven, be at peace".*

Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness: through your
gentleness we find comfort in fear. Your warmth gives life to the dead:
your touch makes sinners righteous.

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us:
in your love and tenderness, remake us. Amen.

Prayer for Reconciliation:

Lord God, bring us together as one,
reconciled with you and reconciled with each other.
You have made us in your likeness,
you gave us your son, Jesus Christ.
He has given us forgiveness from sin.
Lord God, bring us together as one,
different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ,
together as your body, your Church, your people.
Lord God, bring us together as one,
reconciled, healed, forgiven,
sharing you with others as you have called us to do.
In Jesus Christ, let us be together as one. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Readings

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Before the Gospel reading:

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

A sermon or reflection may be offered.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessions are offered.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,
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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and
forever. Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We share a sign of peace.

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of holy dreaming, Great Creator Spirit, from the dawn of creation you have given your children the good things of Mother Earth.

You spoke and the gum tree grew. In the vast desert and dense forest, and in cities at the water's edge, creation sings your praise. Your presence endures as the rock at the heart of our Land.

When Jesus hung on the tree you heard the cries of all your people and became one with the wounded ones: the convicts, the hunted, and the dispossessed.

The sunrise of your Son coloured the earth anew, and bathed it in glorious hope. In Jesus we have been reconciled to you, to each other and to your whole creation.

Lead us on, Great Spirit, as we gather from the four corners of the earth; enable us to walk together in trust

from the hurt and shame of the past into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ.

With all your people of every time and place we shout out songs of praise:

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.]

On the night before he died,

Jesus gathered with his friends

to share a meal and wash their feet, teaching one more lesson of love.

He took bread

and blessed you

and broke it.

He gave it to them and said: "Take this and eat it.

This is my body.”

He took a cup of wine
and blessed you
and gave it to them.

He said: “Take this and drink it. This is my blood,
sealing God’s promise to forgive your sins. Whenever you do this,
do it in memory of me.”

As we share these holy gifts, we remember the Lord Jesus.

For the love you taught us,

the sacrifice you made for us and the hope you give us, we acclaim you,
O Christ:

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

And now, faithful God,

send us your Spirit

to feed us with the body and the blood
of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Make us one body in Christ.

Send us as your messengers in the world and fill us with energy, courage
and love.

Now to you, most holy God,

through Christ your Son and in the Spirit’s power, we bring our worship
and our songs of praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever
and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread and The Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body.

For we all share in the one bread.

Communion is received.

The Sending Out of God’s People

Dear loving lord, creator of all,

You created us all in your own image’

One image -- many colours

One image -- many cultures.

You made us come together like a rainbow,
separate parts but coming together in one creation.
Help us to see the beauty you have created
in each and every one of us.

Dear loving Lord, we are your creation,
Hear the cries of your people.
You gave us ears to hear and eyes to see,
Open our eyes to what you want us to see,
Help us to always look to you to see the wisdom
of your ways.

**Dear loving Lord, creator of all
You gave us hearts to love and minds to reason
Help us to understand our differences
and grow in love for each other.
Help us to come together as the rainbow comes together,
many colours, shining as one creation over all the earth'
As you intended us to be.**

In the name of your dear son, Jesus Christ.

Amen

The Blessing - Water

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; give honour to all; love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Acknowledgements

This liturgy is based on the Second Order for Holy Communion in a Prayer Book for Australia (APBA), Broughton Books, 1995. The introduction and conclusion of the confession are based on Anselm of Canterbury's, "A Song of Christ's Goodness". The Confession, Collect and Preface are sourced from APBA. Opening Prayer and Thanksgiving Prayer sourced from the Anglican Church of Australia Liturgy Commission, "An Order for Holy Communion 2009". The first acknowledgement of country prayer was written by the Revd Bruce Boase, for National Reconciliation Week 2015 (locally adapted). The second acknowledgement of country was sourced from www.reconciliation.org.au Intercessions provided by The Reverend Bruce Boase, Diocese of Brisbane. The sending out prayer written by the Revd Robyn Davis, Diocese of Bendigo.