

# A SERVICE OF THE WORD AND PRAYER (APBA)

including the Lord's Supper, also called the Holy Communion

## DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

*1 The minister greets the people with these words.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. *2 Corinthians 3.13*

**All: And also with you.**

*2 The minister reads the Two Great Commandments.*

Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

*Matthew 22: 37–40*

*3 The minister introduces a prayer of confession with these words.*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**All: Merciful God, our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought word and deed,  
and in what we have failed to do:**

**we have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.**

**Father forgive us.**

**Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*4 The minister assures the people of God's forgiveness.*

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

5 *The minister offers this prayer in preparation for the reading and teaching of the Scriptures.*

Heavenly Father, give us faith to receive your word, understanding to know what it means, and the will to put it into practice, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

6 *The Bible reading(s) follow. After the reading(s) the reader says:*

This is the word of the Lord,  
**All: thanks be to God.**

## AFFIRMING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

7 *This affirmation of faith may be said together.*

**All: We believe in one God,  
who made us and loves all that is.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was born, lived, died and rose again,  
and is coming to call all to account.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,  
and brings all things to their true end.**

**This is our faith, the faith of the Church:  
We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## PRAYING FOR GOD'S WORLD

8 *Prayers and thanksgivings may be offered.*

*For the whole created order, especially ...  
For the nations and peoples of the earth ...  
For those in authority in this land ...  
For the church, its leaders and members ...  
For our community, families and friends ...*

*For those who are in need ...*

*For particular situations ...*

9 *The Lord's Prayer may be said together. The minister says,*  
Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
sacred 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. *Matthew 6.9–13***

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

10 *The minister says the following prayer as an expression of  
dedication for the gifts of the people to support the ministry  
of the church and to provide for those in need.*

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.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

### **THE LORD'S SUPPER (also called the Holy Communion)**

11 *The minister says these words, explaining the Lord's Supper.*

The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created. We praise you especially for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and rising to new life offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. So we praise you, holy God, with angels and archangels and all your faithful people.

**All: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.** *Revelation 4.8*

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered with his friends to share a meal. He took the bread and gave you thanks. He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, and gave you thanks. He shared the cup with them and said, "This is my blood poured out so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

Come let us eat and drink in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*12 The people receive the Lord's Supper / Holy Communion.*

*13 The minister says this blessing and words of farewell*

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; *Philippians 4.7*

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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