

Parish of St Laurence, Northfield

Holy Communion during Lent

According to Order 1 in Common Worship



St Laurence
Northfield



Hearing loop available



Please: no photography or recording
during worship



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
BIRMINGHAM

Welcome

The Sacrament of Communion is placed at the centre of church life at St Laurence Church.



In celebrating Holy Communion together we obey Jesus' command to 'do this in remembrance of me'. Those who are baptized in any Christian Church and whose practice is to receive Holy Communion are welcome to receive at this service. Alternatively, anyone is welcome to receive a blessing.

St Laurence Church has a toilet with baby-changing facilities. It is situated beyond the choir vestry; children **must always** be accompanied by an adult if they enter the vestry area. If you struggle with steps it may be easier to approach the toilet from the outside door – please ask a church warden for help.



Like any charity we are dependent upon donations and fundraising in order to function. If you would like to support the ongoing ministry of this church you can donate in several ways.

- By cash in the collection plate or donation box. If you pay tax please place it in a Gift Aid envelope (yellow) and complete your details
- Making an e-donation using a credit or debit card
- And BEST OF ALL by making a regular donation through the Parish Giving Scheme.....

You can do this on-line please visit www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk or telephone 0333 002 1271, Monday to Friday between 9am - 5pm. you will need this information

Church/Parish Name: **Northfield St Laurence**
PGS Parish Code: **020602050**

Introduction to the Season of Lent

Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

*Now is the healing time decreed for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record the wrong that we have done the Lord.*

(Latin, before 12th century)

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence; from the middle ages it became the custom to begin Lent by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The calculation of the forty days has varied considerably in Christian history. It is now usual in the West to count them continuously to the end of Holy Week (not including Sundays), so beginning Lent on the sixth Wednesday before Easter, Ash Wednesday. Liturgical dress is the simplest possible. Churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration. Gloria in excelsis is not used. The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare or Refreshment Sunday) was allowed as a day of relief from the rigour of Lent, and the Feast of the Annunciation almost always falls in Lent; these breaks from austerity are the background to the modern observance of Mothering Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

As Holy Week approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy. The Stations of the Cross, made popular in the West by the Franciscans after they were granted custody of the Christian sites in the Holy Land, are the best known.

Welcome

A *Hymn* may be sung



Please remain standing if you feel able

All † **In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Summary of the Law

or the full Ten Commandments on page 19

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

There is no other commandment greater than these.
On these two commandments hang all the law and the
prophets.

All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

Confession and Absolution

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.



Let us confess our sins remembering before God the times when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Silence for reflection on the past

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:
fill us with your Spirit.

Pause

Lord, have mercy.

or



Lord, have mercy.

**Kyrie, eleison
Christe, eleison
Kyrie, eleison.**

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:
fill us with your Spirit.

Pause

Christ, have mercy.

or



Christ, have mercy.

**Kyrie, eleison
Christe, eleison
Kyrie, eleison.**

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:
fill us with your Spirit.

Pause

Lord, have mercy.

or



Lord, have mercy.

**Kyrie, eleison
Christe, eleison
Kyrie, eleison.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, † pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect *(Special Prayer for this service)*

Let us pray *(remain standing)*

At the end we all say **Amen**



The Liturgy of the Word

Bible Reading(s)

At the end the reader may say
This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God**



A **Chant or Hymn or Psalm** may be sung



Gospel Reading

Please stand if you feel able

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God,

O that today you would listen to his voice.

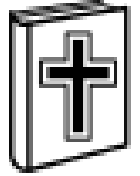
Harden not your hearts.

cf Psalm 95.3,8

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

All **Glory to you, O Lord**



This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

The sermon will be followed by a short time of silence

Apostles' Creed *Please stand*

Let us profess our faith together

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen**

The Peace

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.

cf Romans 5.1,2

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Preparation of the Table

during which a **Hymn** may be sung



The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.
With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.
Bread for his body,
wine for his blood, gifts from
God to his table we bring.
We shall remember Jesus.



Or

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to
faith and love. accept all we offer
you this day; in the name of
Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

(Eucharist means Thanksgiving)

(Prayer B)

The Lord is here

All **His Spirit is with us**

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 thanks and praise.**



Ash Wednesday – Lent 4

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace & learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds, we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels for ever praising you and *saying/singing*

From Lent 5 (Passion Sunday)

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and *saying/singing*

All

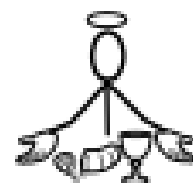
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



mf

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might.
Heav'n_ and earth___ are full___ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes in the name_ of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;



who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you 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.



In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.



Jesus Christ is Lord:

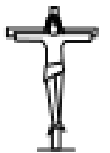
**Lord, by your cross and
resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour
of the world.**

Christ is the bread of life:

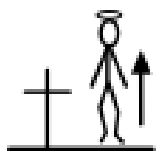
**When we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim your
death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**



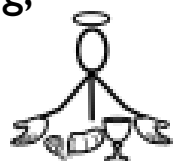
And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once
for the sins of the whole world;



rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.



As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.



Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,



so that we, in the company of Laurence and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Sanctus bell is sounded



The Breaking of the Bread

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

**All Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**



We sit or kneel to say or sing the Agnus Dei

**All Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**



Version with music is overleaf

mp

1.2. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

SOPR. DESCANT

mf

3. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sins _____ of the world: grant us peace.
Slower

sins _____ of the world: grant us _____ peace.

This prayer may be said

**Most merciful Lord,
 your love compels us to come in.
 Our hands were unclean,
 our hearts were unprepared;
 we were not fit
 even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
 But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
 and share your bread with sinners.
 So cleanse and feed us
 with the precious body and blood of your Son,
 that he may live in us and we in him;
 and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
 may sit and eat in your kingdom.
 Amen.**



Giving of Holy Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink

in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The president and people receive communion.

If you are baptized (christened) and want to grow closer to God you are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Alternatively, everyone is welcome to receive an individual blessing.

We receive the bread into outstretched hands. If you would like to receive wine please do so by taking a sip from the chalice. This is now the ONLY way to receive wine

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please ask the person administering the bread.



To indicate that you would like to receive a blessing

This is a very holy time so please keep conversation to a minimum (though we appreciate this is not easy with tiny children.) Hymns may be sung please join in. The hymn numbers are on the board to the left of the eagle lectern.



Prayers for personal use during the administration of Holy Communion

This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord.

It has been made ready for those who love Him
and who want to love Him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,

You who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time,

You who have tried to follow and you who have failed.

Come, not because I invite you:

it is our Lord.

It is His will that those who want Him should meet Him here.

© Wild Goose Worship Group 1989

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to me a contrite heart.
May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree,
heal me by his wounds.
May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth,
speak to me words of pardon and peace. Amen.

©CW Times and Seasons adapted

God of our journey,
as we walk with you on your path of obedience, sustain us on our
way and lead us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

©CW Times and Seasons

The Comfortable Words

(these are much loved quotations from the Bible which were included in the Book of Common Prayer 1662)

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly
turn to him: come to me, all who labour 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

Hear what Saint Paul says: this saying is true, and worthy of full
acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 Timothy 1.15

Hear what Saint John says: if anyone sins, we have an advocate with
the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation*
for our sins.

*merciful sacrifice *1 John 2.1,2*



Post Communion Prayers

Let us pray: -

The priest says the post-communion prayer followed by

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for feeding us with the body and
blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.



The Dismissal

The Notices and Banns of Marriage

Please stand for

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

or

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

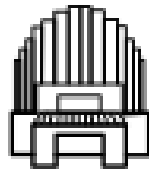


A **Hymn** may be sung



The Dismissal

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



An organ voluntary is usually played

*Refreshments are often served after the
mid-morning Sunday service.*

All welcome.

There is no charge but smiles and donations are welcome!

PLEASE keep a close eye on your children after the service and, so as to keep everyone safe, do not allow them to run around church.

If you have any questions about the service or the Christian faith please speak to a minister or one of the church wardens or welcomers.

The Ten Commandments

Hear these commandments which God has given to his people, and examine your hearts.

I am the Lord your God: you shall have no other gods but me.
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

All **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.
God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth. **Amen...**

You shall not dishonour the name of the Lord your God.
You shall worship him with awe and reverence. **Amen...**

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.
Christ is risen from the dead: set your minds on things that are above,
not on things that are on the earth. **Amen...**

Honour your father and mother.
Live as servants of God; let us work for the good of all,
especially members of the household of faith. **Amen...**

You shall not commit murder.
Live peaceably with all; overcome evil with good. **Amen...**

You shall not commit adultery.
Know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. **Amen...**

You shall not steal.
Be honest in all that you do, and care for those in need. **Amen...**

You shall not be a false witness.
Let everyone speak the truth. **Amen...**

You shall not covet anything which belongs to your neighbour.
Remember the words of the Lord Jesus:
'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'
Love your neighbour as yourself, for love is the fulfilling of the law.

All **Amen. Lord have mercy upon us,
and write all these your laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Keep in touch...

Website www.stlaurencenorthfield.org

Facebook www.facebook.com/StLaurenceChurchNorthfield

Parish Office
enquiries@saintlaurence.info
0121 475 1518

Much of this service is taken from 'Common Worship'

© *Common Worship*

The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2002, 2011

The pictures are © www.widgitonline.com

(reproduced by subscription)

They are from a selection which is increasingly used in schools and care home.

They are designed to assist people facing learning or memory challenges.

They have been recommended by 'LivabilityUK'