

**Benefice of Sarratt and Chipperfield
Holy Cross, Sarratt and
St Paul's, Chipperfield**

HOLY COMMUNION

EPIPHANYTIDE

A prayer of preparation -

The God who breathed this world alive
And sustains it day by day
Whose hands flung stars into space
And controls our destiny
Says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

The God who filled the ocean depths
And set tides on their way
Who caused mountains to be raised up
And rainbows to display
Says, "I have called you by name, you are mine."

The God who made the fertile earth
And seed within to sow
Whose artistry creates butterflies
And the early morning dew
Says, "You are precious in my sight."

*Based on Isaiah 43:1-7
Faith and Worship: Prayer by John Birch, 2016*

Organ voluntary

The Gathering

Please stand

An Introit may be sung

A hymn is sung

Greeting

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

All: **And also with you.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Opening Prayer

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

All: **Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Invitation to Confession

These or other words of invitation to confession are used

Do not be anxious about your life,
what you shall eat or what you shall drink.
Seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness.

Matthew 6.31,33

Confession

Let us confess our sins
and our failure to make God's will our priority:

We pause in silence, sit or kneel

'I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink.'
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

'I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me.'
Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

'I was sick and you did not visit me,
in prison and you did not come to me.'
Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect

Let us pray

Silence is kept. The Collect is read and all respond.

All: **Amen.**

The Word

Readings

At end of each reading

This is the word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A hymn is sung

Gospel Reading

Gospel acclamation, please stand.

Alleluia, alleluia.

'Go and make disciples of all the nations,'
says the Lord;

'I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

All: **alleluia.**

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

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

We stand for the Affirmation of Faith

The Creed

All: **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We sit or kneel to pray

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

This response is used:

Lord, we pray:
All: **Your kingdom come**

At the end

Almighty God,
by your Holy Spirit you have made us one
with your saints in heaven and on earth:
grant that in our earthly pilgrimage
we may ever be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer,
and know ourselves surrounded by their witness
to your power and mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

The Sacrament

Please remain seated

The Peace

God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.
First be reconciled to one another.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace

Preparation of the Table

An anthem or hymn may be sung

This prayer may be said:

Faithful God, receive all we offer you this day.
May we so live the life of Christ
that your Church may be a sign of salvation
to all the nations of the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: **Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer

We sit or kneel

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.**

Living God, Father of light,
hope of nations, friend of sinners,
builder of the city that is to come:

your love is made visible in Jesus Christ,
you bring home the lost, restore the sinner
and give dignity to the despised.
In the face of Jesus Christ
your light shines out,
flooding lives with goodness and truth,
gathering into one a divided and broken humanity.
With people from every race and nation,
with the Church of all the ages,
with apostles, evangelists and martyrs,
we join the angels of heaven in their unending song:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Mary the mother of Jesus, St Joseph
and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All:

**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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.
All: **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The Agnus Dei is said as the bread is broken.

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world
grant us your peace.**

Invitation

Christ is the true bread
which has come down from heaven.
All: **Lord, give us this bread always.**

Giving of Communion

Silence is kept

*An anthem and/or hymn may be sung during the distribution of Communion
If you do not normally receive communion but would like to receive a blessing,
please indicate that to the minister.*

Prayer after Communion

The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.

We may say this prayer

**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.**

Notices and Banns

A hymn is sung

The Sending Out

Dismissal Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28.19,20

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Blessing

The Father, whose glory fills the heavens,
cleanse you by his holiness
and send you to proclaim his word.

All: **Amen**

The Son, who has ascended to the heights,
pour upon you the riches of his grace.

All: **Amen**

The Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
equip you and strengthen you in your ministry.

All: **Amen**

And the blessing ...

Dismissal

Jesus, lord of tomorrow,
draw us into your future.
Amen.

All:

The Lord says, 'Go into all the world
and make disciples of all the nations.'
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Please leave the church as directed by the Churchwardens or sidespersons.

Organ Voluntary

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Epiphanytide (Mission) /Eucharist Prayer E
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