



The Opening Acclamation: BCP, 355

The Celebrant says

Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People: Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Celebrant: Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. 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 neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mk 12:29-31)

Collect of the Day

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading

Lector: A reading from the book of Genesis.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth." (9:8-17)

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Lector: The Psalm appointed for today is Psalm 25:1-9. We will read it in unison.

**1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

**2 Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

**3 Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.**

**4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the
day long.**

**5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.**

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love and for the sake of your
goodness, O LORD.**

**7 Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**

**8 He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

**9 All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

The Second Reading

Lector: A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him. (3:18-22)

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Deacon or priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice

came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” (1:9-15)

Deacon or priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Holy Conversation on the Word

An Affirmation of Faith

**I believe that you, O God, created humanity, female and male,
in your image.**

**I hear you, O Lord, and your call to love you with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my strength, and with all my mind,
and your command to love my neighbors as myself.**

**I accept others, just as you have accepted me,
in order to bring praise to you, O God.**

**I hope to shine like the stars in the universe
as I hold out the word of life to my community.**

**I am committed to growing in your knowledge and love
and to participating in the life of my faith community.**

**I praise you for removing my sackcloth and clothing me with yourself
so that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.**

**I hope through Jesus the Risen One in the power of the Holy Spirit
now and forever. Amen.^[2]**

Prayers of the People

Priest: Gracious God, who knit our inmost parts before we were born and who shelters us with a strong hand, in our gratitude receive the prayers we offer as we respond to each petition saying, “Kyrie eleison.”

(Said: *Kē-rē-ā ā -lay- ē -sōn - - trans. Lord, have mercy*)

In thanksgiving for the unity we share through our faith and resurrection in Jesus Christ, that we who have been entrusted with the gift of new life, may bring life to the world and renewed hope to our church, for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For the courage to hold fast to the high ideals of our calling, bringing the lamp of charity to those who live in despair and desperation, and through their cries receive the saving grace that enlightens our ministry; for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For a renewed sense of the body of Christ, the Church, that together with our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop Deon, and all other ministers, we may rededicate ourselves in the unity of the Triune God; for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For the urgency to seek peace before the battle breaks, for economic justice before the weight of poverty fractures the will of nations; for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For the forgiveness of our sins, that the wounds we inflict on one another may be healed by the Divine Life that overcomes human frailty; for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For those on our parish prayer list, that they may know we lift them into the presence of God by our prayers where they are filled with the power of God’s healing love. We pray for the needs and concerns of this congregation, especially _____; for these we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

For those whose lives are approaching death, and for those who have died, remembering especially _____, that they and their loved ones may receive the comfort of the Holy Spirit; for this we pray.

People: Kyrie eleison.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Celebrant: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal Power, be our strength. Eternal Wisdom, guide us as we serve you. Grant that with all our hearts, with all our minds, and with all our strength, we may evermore seek your presence, and by your infinite love, keep us in your holy presence

Leader: Let us make our confession.

A moment of silence is kept.

**Eternal Mother, Compassionate Father
we confess that we have believed the lie
that we are not in you and you are not in us,
and we have lived that lie in what we have done,
and by letting things go undone.
We have forgotten to love you with our whole heart;
we have refused to love our neighbors
and we have failed to love ourselves.
We are ready now to change this
to receive the gift of your healing and wholeness.
Knowing the frailty of our humanity,
we open ourselves to the strength of your divinity.
We ask you to overshadow us and breathe new life into us,
for only then are we able to follow you in your way,
serve the welfare of your people,
and glorify your Holy Name by our lives. Amen.**

The Absolution.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **All: Amen.**

The Peace. BCP, 360

Celebrant: *La paz de Cristo sea siempre con ustedes.*
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us awaken our hearts and see that God is with us.

People: God's Spirit is here, in, around, and among us.

Celebrant: Creator God, your daughters and sons gather as a brood under the safety of your wing, remembering the story of your great love for all you have created and re-memorating ourselves to you and to all of your saints on earth and in heaven. Your song of praise rises up from within us and flows forth from us as with one voice we join with the heavenly chorus and sing:

Merciful God, your loving care for us has been offered countless times, catching us up into you every time we strayed and lost our way. Then, being kindness, you responded to our blindness, willfulness, and lostness by taking on flesh like ours, eliminating all that separated us. Expressing yourself in the person of Jesus, the Christ, we could see you, touch you, talk with you, and learn to become like you, corporal temples of the Eternal One. But we struggled to understand and surrender to such unconditional mercy, and we projected our fear onto you, onto one another, and onto your creation.

Knowing that nothing short of everything would be required for our salvation, you gathered your friends together, as you'd done so many times before. The meal was simple: bread and wine. In your hands and by your prayers, however, this simple food became holy food, the food of life.

You took the bread, and giving thanks, you broke the bread, gave it to your friends and said, 'Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this to remember me.'

Then, you took the cup of wine, and lifted it up in thanksgiving, gave it to your friends and said, ‘Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink it, do this to remember me.’

Loving Christ, Gentle Guide, by the power of your unfathomable love you transformed these simple gifts of bread and wine into holy food, which you gave to your ordinary friends, transforming them into holy people.

+ Now bless and sanctify our simple gifts of bread and wine, making them into your body and blood, and grant that all who share this holy food are made one body, one spirit in Christ. +Bless and sanctify us also, that we may trust your choice of us to be bearers of your way, your truth, and your life into the world.

**All: We praise you, we trust you,
 and we surrender ourselves to you
 offering nothing short of everything.**

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, we honor and glorify you Motherly Father, Liberating Son, and Holy Wisdom, Trinity in Unity, now and forever.

All: AMEN!

The Lord’s Prayer

Celebrant: And now, with humility and confidence, we pray:

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
 Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
 Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
 The way of your justice be followed by the
 peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts that we absorb from another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.^[4]**

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: **We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Celebrant: If you are thirsty, drink the Fount of Life.
If you are hungry, eat the Bread of Life.
Blessed are all who hunger for this Bread
and thirst for this Fount. ^[5]

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **God of Elizabeth and Zachariah, Sarah and Abraham,
Rebecca, Sarah, and Isaac; God the Divine Mother and Father of the
wholeness of our being; we give you thanks for the gift of life. In your name
we celebrate the special qualities that you have given us: the gift of
connectedness, the gift of empathy, the gift of compassion, the gift of
nurturing, the gift of insight, the gifts of flexibility and multiplicity. Guide us,
gracious God, that we may claim the unique strengths of these gifts and use
them to your glory in the world. Give us the wisdom to honor these attributes
within ourselves that they may be used freely, fully, and always in your
name.^[6] Amen.**

The Blessing

God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. Amen. *(source: Celtic, Enriching Our Worship, 70)*

Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord
People **Thanks be to God.**

This Eucharistic Prayer was developed written and edited by The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer. Honoring the wealth of our tradition, all that has been borrowed or adapted is cited below.

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- [1] "prayer of devotion" by Dr. Karen A. Eshelman, *Women's Uncommon Prayers*, 223.
- [2] "An Affirmation of Faith," *She Who Prays*, 23
- [3] "For Love's Sake," *She Who Prays*, 23. *The responses were adapted by The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, 2019.*
- [4] "Night Prayer," A New Zealand Prayer Book (Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia), 181.
- [5] "Fraction Anthems," *Enriching our Worship 1, Morning and Evening Prayer, The Great Litany, The Holy Eucharist* (Church Publishing Company, NY, 1997), 69
- [6] "A Woman's Special Gifts of Leadership" by Dr. Kay Collier-Sloane, *Women's Uncommon Prayers* 14. *Adapted by The Rev. Dr. Valori Mulvey Sherer, 2019.*