

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYERS



In these prayers, we participate in Holy Communion (or the 'Eucharist', which means 'thanksgiving' in Greek). In Communion, we encounter, in a mysterious and significant way, our Lord Himself. In encountering Him, we get to know Him better;<sup>13</sup> just as we get to know family members better not just by thinking about them but by being with them.

There is more information about receiving Holy Communion in your bulletin.



## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER, BLESSING, DISMISSAL, PROCESSION OUT

In these parts of the service, we give thanks to God for the benefits we have received in the gift of Communion, and we ask God to help us serve Him well in the world.



## AFTER THE SERVICE

We fellowship with one another in the Library! And in so doing we bond as a church family.

1. *Matthew 19:14*

2. *Luke 11:1-4, Matthew 6:9-15*

3. *1 Corinthians 3:21-23, Galatians 2:20*

4. *Matthew 16:24-26, Philippians 2:3-11*

5. *Philippians 2:11*

6. *Matthew 11:28-30*

7. *Galatians 6:14*

8. *Philippians 2:2*

9. *John 1:1-8*

10. *1 Corinthians 11:27-29*

11. *1 Corinthians 12:27,*

*Ephesians 1:22-23,*

*Ephesians 5:29-30*

12. *Romans 12:1-12*

13. *Luke 24:30-31, 35*



a brief explanation of the service

## General Notes



### ABOUT THE NURSERY, AND ARE MY CHILDREN WELCOME IN THE SERVICE?

Yes, your children are welcome in the service!<sup>1</sup> Wiggles are a sign of life. There is no requirement to send your children to the nursery. If you do choose to send your child to the nursery, people typically put elementary aged children in Children's Chapel and younger children in the nursery. Children's Chapel kids are brought into the service at the time of the Announcements & Children's Sermon.

### WRITTEN PRAYERS



Episcopalians believe that both extemporaneous (non-written) and written prayers are good ways to open ourselves to God.<sup>2</sup> Oftentimes written prayers can express our thoughts and feelings well, like the Psalms. In our services, you will see many written prayers. These are passed down to us from centuries of godly people refining them. They are full of Scripture and praying them often shapes us.

### MANUAL DEVOTIONS



We humans love with our whole bodies, not just with words. Just as we hug our friends and family, some of us express love and respect to God through our bodies with manual devotions, like bowing or crossing ourselves. These are physical prayers.

There is no requirement to make these movements, and no one around you is anxious to make sure that you do them 'right'. You should feel comfortable not doing them – or accidentally doing them at times that others do not. Eventually, you may find them becoming natural expressions of prayer.

### THE SIGN OF THE CROSS



Many people cross themselves (up, down, left, right) in certain parts of the service. This motion means lots of things. For one, it is a hearty way affirm that which is said at this part of the service. Second, it is a way to show how we are claimed by Him who died for us, Jesus.<sup>3</sup> Third, it expresses our intent to carry our own crosses in our covenant relationship with Christ.<sup>4</sup> In short, it is a way we show that, with everything we are, we align ourselves with the Lord.<sup>5</sup> In surrender, we find authentic freedom, joy, and peace.<sup>6</sup>

## The Service Itself

### PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH



You will see people bow when the cross passes, as a sign of respect for the symbol of our salvation from death and sin through the sacrifice Jesus made for all of us on the cross.<sup>7</sup>

### OPENING ACCLAMATION, KYRIE, GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



These opening prayers give us an opportunity to praise God and seek His assistance, and to prepare our hearts to receive God's Word in Scripture, sermon and sacrament.<sup>8</sup>

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS AND SERMON



Here we experience the Word of God spoken to us. Scripture says Jesus is "the Word" of God.<sup>9</sup> When we hear Scripture, we encounter Jesus. This Word is full of meaning. The sermon reflects on one aspect of Scripture and speaks it into our lived experience.

### CREED, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, CONFESSION, AND PEACE



In these parts of the service, we affirm the faith of the Church, pray for ourselves and others, and confess our sins before Holy Communion.<sup>10</sup> We become knit together as the "Body of Christ", the Church<sup>11</sup> before offering ourselves to God and receiving Him sacramentally in the Eucharist.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS, CHILDREN'S SERMON, AND OFFERTORY SENTENCE / OFFERTORY ANTHEM



After the "Liturgy of the Word" (the first 'half' of the service), we have announcements, the children's sermon, and the offertory. In the offertory, we gather that which we wish to offer to God in the Eucharist – bread and wine (which represent our collective work tilling God's creation and making it productive), money (our stress, time, and sacrifice), and ourselves<sup>12</sup> (which we prepared through prayer, reflection, confession, and sharing the peace).