



**St. Michael and All Angels
Amersham on the Hill**



**HOLY EUCHARIST
LENT**

A warm welcome to this service

This booklet is designed for use throughout the season of Lent and includes guidance notes. Do please ask a “Welcomer” if you need any further help.

Although Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, it soon became a season of preparation for Easter, making it a time of self-examination, penitence, self-denial and study, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added. The forty days of Lent remind us of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness.

In present times, the focus of Lent is on “taking up” rather than “giving up”, as we are encouraged, through study and prayer, to grow in faith and understanding, to seek justice for the poor, and to give freely to those in need.

As in Advent, churches are kept bare of flowers and decoration and the liturgical colour is purple. Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent (also known as Refreshment Sunday), offers a break from Lenten austerity, before the season darkens into Passiontide.

The Gathering

Introit

Processional Hymn

Please stand, if able.

The Greeting

On the first Sunday of Lent:

President Lord, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning; our salvation in time of distress.

Isaiah 33.2

On the second Sunday of Lent:

President Rend your hearts and not your garments; turn back to the Lord your God who is gracious and compassionate, long-suffering and abounding in love.

Joel 2.13

On the third Sunday of Lent:

President We have rebelled against the Lord our God who still shows mercy and forgiveness.

Daniel 9.9

On the fourth Sunday of Lent:

President They will neither hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat of the sun beat upon them, for the One who loves them will lead them and guide them beside the springs of water.

Isaiah 49.10 (adapted)

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.

All **Amen.**

Please sit.

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

The Commandments

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

All I am the Lord your God: you shall have no other gods but me.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not make for yourself any idol.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not dishonour the name of the Lord your God.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All Honour your father and your mother.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not commit murder.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not commit adultery.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not steal.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

All You shall not covet anything which belongs to your neighbour.
**Amen. Lord, have mercy upon us
and write all these your laws in our hearts.**

Invitation to Confession

Please remain seated or kneel.

Deacon Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have rebelled against him.
Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

We pause for confession.

Confession

All Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

All Against you, you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight:
Christ, have mercy.
All **Christ, have mercy.**

All Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me:
Lord, have mercy.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Absolution

President May the God of love
bring you back to himself,
forgive you your sins,
and assure you of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

The Collect

The priest gathers together, or collects, our prayers.

The Liturgy of the Word

(Readings and Psalm on Notice Sheet)

Please sit.

Old Testament Reading

All For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Choir – all sing responses.

New Testament Reading

All For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Please stand, if able.

Gospel Reading

Please turn to face the Gospel.

*Deacon
All*

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance:
govern and uphold them now and always.

All

Day by day we bless you:
we praise you name for ever.

All

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin:
have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

All

Lord, show us your love and mercy:
for we put our trust in you.

All

In you Lord is our hope:
let us not be confounded at the last.

All

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*
Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is proclaimed.

All

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

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand, if able.

All

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Please sit or kneel to pray.

On the first three Sundays of Lent the following response may be used:

All Lord, meet us in the silence:
and hear our prayer.

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

On Mothering Sunday:

All For all our mothers and fathers,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For the security of homes and family life,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For the joy of loving human relationships,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For your holy catholic Church, the mother of us all,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For your family in this place, and our life together,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For all the members of our families who have died, and now find
their home in you,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

All For Mary, the mother of Jesus, and for all who seek to follow her
example of motherhood,
Lord, receive our thanks and prayers.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand, if able.

*For those who would like to, you are welcome to join hands as we
sing or say the Peace.*

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

Romans 5.1,2

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

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.
All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

The gifts of the people are gathered and presented.

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

The President takes the bread and wine.

Preparation of the Table

President 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.

All **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer C

Please remain standing, if able.

All The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks
because you give us the spirit of discipline,
that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace,
as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery
with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy,
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction
for the sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,
in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

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.

Deacon
All

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.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise
and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,
and through faith in his blood,
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins
and all other benefits of his passion.

Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,
to offer you any sacrifice,
yet we pray that you will accept this
the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,
and fill us all who share in this holy communion
with your grace and heavenly blessing;
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 Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom.

In our own language, teach us to 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

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All

Agnus Dei

All

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All **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.**

*All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.
After receiving the bread and the wine please respond "Amen"
or, if you would like a blessing, please place your hands across your
chest.*

Post-Communion Hymn

Please stand, if able.

Post Communion Prayer

The President leads.

Prayer after Communion

All **God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Notices and Banns

The Dismissal

Blessing

President May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit,
give to you a contrite heart.

All **Amen.**

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.

All **Amen.**

Deacon Joy with peace,
amendment of life,
time for repentance,
the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit,
and perseverance in good works,
grant us, O almighty and merciful Lord.

All **Amen.**

Recessional hymn verse

All sing **A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
to share his bread, his loving cup,
whatever burdens may bow us down,
he by his cross shall lift us up.**

Material from the following may be included in this service: *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England* (2000), *Patterns for Worship* (1995), *New Patterns for Worship* (2002), *Times and Seasons* (2006), *The Promise of His Glory* (1991) all copyright © The Archbishops' Council; *Celtic Daily Prayer Book 1 & 2* (2015) © The Northumbria Community Trust; *Enriching the Christian Year* (SPCK, 1993) compilation © Michael Perham. CCL No 908682.

