



CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

WE VALUE YOUR CHILDREN!

Nursery: Church of the Resurrection is providing nursery for children ages infant through 4. Nursery care is provided throughout the service. If you have a child in diapers, please leave all the necessary supplies with our wonderful nursery care providers.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Children from pre-school through age 12 are invited to participate in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd where they will enjoy a structured time of prayer, Bible teaching, and Christian formation. Children will be dismissed to leave with their teachers early in the service and then return for Holy Communion. If you prefer, your children are welcome to stay with you during the service. For more information contact Mrs. Dana Huffman (dana@christchurchws.org).

Youth Ministry: For more information contact Fr. Keith (keith@christchurchws.org).



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and genuine repentance for sin are welcomed at the Lord's Table. Any person who has doubts about his or her preparedness to receive the Sacrament is urged to seek godly advice and direction as soon as is possible. You may desire to read through the Exhortation provided at the end of this service guide to assist in discerning your readiness to receive Holy Communion.

If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please feel free to receive the bread only. Simply cross your hands over your chest when you pass the chalice bearer by to indicate you do not wish to receive the wine. The ancient Christian teaching is that the full grace of the Sacrament is received whether one receives only the consecrated bread or both bread and wine.

If you are not receiving Holy Communion today you are still invited to come forward to receive a blessing. When you come forward, if you are not receiving the sacrament, please indicate this by crossing your arms in front of your chest. If you prefer you may remain in your pew and offer a prayer such as those provided at the end of this service guide for those who are not receiving the Sacrament.

During the distribution of Holy Communion we also encourage those who desire special prayer for healing or other needs to pray with our prayer team.

**IN REVERENCE TO GOD, PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES.
THANK YOU!**



CHURCH OF THE
RESURRECTION

First Sunday of Advent

Our worship service is rooted in the practices and teachings of the Bible and the early Church. We pray for and expect the Holy Spirit to be present and powerful among us as we are drawn into the never ceasing worship that is offered to God in heaven.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

Lo, He comes with clouds descending
Once for favored sinners slain
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign

Every eye shall now behold Him
Robed in dreadful majesty
Those who set at naught and sold Him
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see

Now redemption long expected
See in solemn pomp appear
All His saints by men rejected
Now shall meet Him in the air
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! See the day of God appear

Yea, Amen! Let all adore Thee
High on Thine eternal throne
Savior, take the pow'r and the glory
Claim the kingdom for Thine own
O, come quickly! O, come quickly! O, come quickly!
Everlasting God, come down

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.

Celebrant: Surely the Lord is coming soon.

People: AMEN! Come Lord Jesus!

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

THE TRISAGION

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Prepare the way, O Zion!
Your Christ is drawing near
Let every hill and valley
A level way appear
Greet one who comes in glory
Foretold in sacred story

*O blessed is Christ that came
In God's most holy Name*

O Zion, he approaches
The Lord and King of all
Cast palms where he advances
Spread garments in his way
God's promise fails us never

Hosanna's sung forever

He brings God's rule, O Zion
He comes from heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom
And justice, truth, and love
Lift high your praise resounding
For grace and joy abounding

Lift high your praise resounding
For grace and joy abounding

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding
"Christ is near," we hear the cry
"Cast away the works of darkness
O you children of the day!"

Startled at the solemn warning
Let the earth-bound soul arise
Christ, its Sun, all sloth dispelling
Shines upon the morning skies

See the Lamb, so long expected
Comes with pardon down from heav'n
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow
One and all to be forgiv'n

So when next He comes in glory
And the world is wrapped in fear
He will shield us with His mercy
And with words of love draw near

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And with your spirit

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

One of the characteristics of our worship is the abundance of **Scripture** that is read. We believe that we encounter God through his inspired, authoritative Word.

The **Psalms** are the hymnbook of the people of God. They express our deepest longings, joys, and sorrows. Christians see many of the Psalms as directly related to Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit pray this Psalm through you as we speak these words together.

During our service we will use the prayers and Scripture readings specifically selected for this day in the Christian year.

The Celebrant (presiding minister) leads us in the **collect**, a prayer that "collects" our hearts and guides our thoughts into the presence of God.

THE FIRST LESSON

Reader: A reading from Isaiah 2:1-5.

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³ and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 122

1 I was glad when they said unto me, *

"We will go into the house of the Lord."

2 Now our feet are standing *

within your gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is built as a city *

that is at unity in itself.

4 For there the tribes go up, even the tribes of the Lord, *

as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks unto the Name of the Lord.

5 For there is the throne of judgment, *

even the throne of the house of David.

6 O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; *

they shall prosper that love you.

7 Peace be within your walls *

and plenteousness within your palaces.

8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, *

I will wish you prosperity.

9 Indeed, because of the house of the Lord our God, *

I will seek to do you good.

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader: A reading from Romans 13:8-14.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

We stand during the Gospel reading because the Gospels represent Christ's presence in the Church through his Word.

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Nobody Knows

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew (24:29-44).

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

²⁹“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. ³²“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ³³So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁴Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³⁵Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁶“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the

field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ!

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Nobody Knows

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You are encouraged to add your own petitions and thanksgivings either silently or aloud during the **Prayers of the People**.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Reader: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Reader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Reader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Reader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Reader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Reader: Give to the faithful departed eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Reader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

(You are encouraged to offer your own prayers silently or aloud.)

COLLECT AFTER THE PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God kneeling if able.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Many people kneel during the **Confession of Sin** as a sign of humility and repentance before God. Confession and repentance are the means God gives us for receiving the forgiveness made possible through Jesus Christ.

During the **Absolution** the priest declares God's forgiveness as promised in the Bible for all who confess and turn away from their sins. (1 John 1:9)

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Mat. 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. *Jn. 3:16.*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. 1:15.*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. *1 Jn. 2:1-2.*

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with your spirit.**

The **Peace** reminds us that we must reconcile with one another before we receive Holy Communion (Matthew 5:23). "Peace be with you" or "God's peace" are some of the phrases used as we greet one another.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Celebrant: Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,

People: And of your own have we given you!

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OFFERTORY

I Stand Amazed

I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene
And wonder how He could love me
A sinner, condemned, unclean, singing

*How marvelous, how wonderful
And my song shall ever be
How marvelous, how wonderful
Is my Savior's love for me*

He took my sin and my sorrows
He made them His very own
And He bore the burden to Calvary
And suffered and died alone, singing

When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of His love for me, singing

The prayer of the **Great Thanksgiving** (also known as the “Anaphora” or the “Canon of the Mass”) is taken directly from the words of the Bible and from the earliest Christian services. In this prayer we recall the scope of salvation history, thanking God for his mighty acts in creation and redemption.

One of the benefits of praying this prayer weekly is that these words are planted in our hearts. Thus we are better equipped to share our faith with those who have yet to come to Christ.

Although the prayer is prayed by the priest as the representative minister, the whole gathered people of God offer up this prayer. The great “Amen” at the end of the prayer is said forcefully by the people showing that this is indeed their prayer offered to God.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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 give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, And gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore according to his command, O Father,
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit + upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us + to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN!**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught we are bold to say,
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Kneeling as able

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The **Fraction** is not a set of words, but an action and takes place in silence. “Christ our Passover” recalls Jesus as the Passover Lamb offered once for the forgiveness of sins (Hebrews 9:27-28).

Along with most Christians down through the ages and across the world we believe that we truly encounter Jesus in this meal. Communion is not merely a symbol. It also brings us into the real presence of Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).

All baptized followers of Jesus Christ who come with faith and repentance are welcome to receive Holy Communion in our church.

THE AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **grant us your peace.**

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

Facing the People, the Celebrant may say the following invitation

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the People.

The Bread and Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

During the ministration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.

The Celebrant may offer a sentence of Scripture at the conclusion of the Communion.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

Come to the Water

O let all who thirst
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without price
Why should you pay the price
Except for the Lord?

And let all who seek
Let them come to the water
And let all who have nothing
Let them come to the Lord
Without money, without strife
Why should you spend your life
Except for the Lord?

And let all who toil
Let them come to the water
And let all who are weary
Let them come to the Lord
All who labor without rest
How can your soul find rest
Except for the Lord?

And let all the poor
Let them come to the water
Bring the ones who are laden
Bring them all to the Lord
Bring the children without might
Easy the load and light
Come to the Lord

Come to the Lord
Come to the Lord
Come to the Lord

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us, through this Sacrament,
of your favor and goodness towards us:
that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,
the blessed company of all faithful people;
and are also heirs, through hope,
of your everlasting kingdom.
And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,
to assist us with your grace,
that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the LORD our God
We are not consumed, by the flood
Upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn
My soul, be not afraid
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the Faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Suggested prayers for those not receiving Holy Communion

O Lord, teach me to seek you, and reveal yourself to me when I seek you. For I cannot seek you unless you first teach me, nor find you unless you first reveal yourself to me. Let me seek you in longing, and long for you in seeking. Let me find you in love, and love you in finding. Amen.

—Saint Ambrose of Milan, c. 340 - 397

Heavenly Father, I am in a far country, destitute and distant from you. Create in me the desire and grant me the strength to arise and return to you. And seeing my return, Father, run quickly to embrace me, fall on my neck and kiss me, and claim me as your beloved child who was dead, but is alive again, who was lost but is now found. Amen.

—From Luke 15:11-32

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and for the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

— The Book of Common Prayer

Lord Jesus, I believe that you offer yourself in this Sacrament. I desire to love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you in Holy Communion, be present to me by your Word and the fellowship of your Church. As though you have already come, by faith I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you. Never permit me to be separated from you, for your great love's sake.

THE EXHORTATION

Dearly beloved in the Lord: if you intend to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, you must consider how Saint Paul, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, exhorts us all diligently to examine ourselves before we presume to eat of that Bread, and drink of that Cup. For as the benefit is great, if we receive that holy Sacrament with a truly penitent heart and lively faith, spiritually eating the flesh of Christ and drinking his blood, so that we might be made one with Christ and he with us; so also is the danger great, if we receive these gifts unworthily. For then we become guilty of profaning the Body and Blood of Christ our Savior, and we eat and drink to our own condemnation.

Therefore, judge yourselves lest you be judged by the Lord. First, examine your life by the rule of God's commandments. Wherever you have offended, either by thought, word, or deed, confess your sins to Almighty God, with the full intention to amend your life. Be ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs you have done to others; and also be ready to forgive others who have offended you: for otherwise, if you unworthily receive Holy Communion, you will increase your own condemnation. Therefore, repent of your sins, or else do not come to God's Holy Table.

If you have come here today with a troubled conscience, and you need help and counsel, come to me, or to some other priest, and confess your sins; that you may receive godly counsel, direction, and absolution. To do so will both satisfy your conscience and remove any scruples or doubt.

Above all, each of us should give humble and hearty thanks to God for the redemption of the world by the death and passion of our Savior Jesus Christ. He humbled himself, even to death on a cross, for us sinners who lay in darkness and in the shadow of death, that he might make us children of God, and exalt us to everlasting life.

Because of his exceedingly great love for us, our Savior Jesus Christ has instituted and ordained these holy mysteries as pledges of his love, and for a continual remembrance of his death and passion, to our great and endless comfort.

To him, therefore, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, let us give continual thanks, as is our duty and our joy; submitting ourselves entirely to his holy will and striving to serve him in holiness and righteousness all the days of our life. *Amen.*

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