

SAINT THOMAS CHURCH

In the City of New York

CHORAL EUCHARIST ORDER OF SERVICE

Please switch off all cellular telephones and pagers.

INTRODUCTORY RITE

All stand as the Procession enters the Church. A Hymn may be sung.

The Celebrant may sing or say the Opening Acclamation

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

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

In place of the above, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

In Lent and on other penitential occasions

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

His mercy endureth for ever.

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity and may say the Summary of the Law. Then is sung

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

When appointed, the following hymn or some other song of praise is sung, in addition to, or in place of, the preceding, all standing

Glory be to God on high,

and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,

we worship thee,

we glorify thee,

we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy;

thou only art the Lord;

thou only, O Christ,

with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Celebrant sings or says

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

The People remain standing as the Celebrant sings or says

The Collect of the Day

People ***Amen.***

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The People sit. The First Lesson is introduced by the Lector saying

A Reading from _____ .

After the Reading, the Lector says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm appointed is sung by the Choir. The People remain seated.

The Epistle is introduced by the Subdeacon saying

A Reading from _____ .

After the Reading, the Subdeacon says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

All stand. A Hymn may be sung. The Deacon reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to _____ .

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

After the Gospel, the Deacon says

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Then there follows, all standing

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin
Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to
the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver
of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and
Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of
sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Deacon bids the Prayers of the People as designated in the Leaflet. At the conclusion of the Prayers, the Deacon invites the People to

The Confession of Sin

The Confession on occasion may be omitted.

The Deacon and People say
Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have
committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy
divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and
indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Celebrant, says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great
mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those
who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto
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 Peace

The Celebrant says to the People

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And with thy spirit.

The Greetings

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture. During the Offertory, an anthem shall be sung, and may conclude with a Hymn, at which time the People stand. The Celebrant faces them and sings

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we
should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto
thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here a Proper Preface is sung as appointed.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the
company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious
Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Choir

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The People kneel. The Celebrant continues with

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer by singing or saying

...O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

The People and Celebrant sing or 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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and says

[Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season.

The Prayer of Humble Access may be said in unison.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy 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 Celebrant says the following Invitation

Behold the Lamb of God; behold him who taketh away the sins of the world.

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

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

During the ministration of Communion, anthems such as the Agnus Dei may be sung.

CONCLUDING RITE

After Communion the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

The People join in saying the Postcommunion Prayer.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Celebrant, gives the blessing

The peace of God, which passeth 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 Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the People who respond with these words

Thanks be to God.

From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost "Alleluia, alleluia" may be added to any of the dismissals to which the People respond

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

All stand as the Procession leaves the Church.

A Hymn may be sung.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Pastoral Directions on How to Receive Holy Communion

The Holy Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, goes by many names in the Christian community: the Lord's Supper, the Divine Liturgy, the Mass, the Holy Mysteries, the Holy Sacrifice, Holy Communion. Jesus instituted the Eucharist on the night before he died for us and told his followers to "do this in remembrance of me." The Eucharist is the outward and visible sign of our Redemption by the sacrifice, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the sacramental tradition of Christianity, which includes the Anglican (Episcopal) tradition, the Eucharist is the principal service on the Lord's Day (Sunday) and all Major Holy Days. Our Church upholds the Real Presence of Jesus in this Sacrament. At SAINT THOMAS CHURCH, we have the joy and privilege of celebrating the Eucharist every Sunday and weekday of the year.

The Episcopal Church, of which SAINT THOMAS CHURCH is a parish in the Diocese of New York, welcomes all baptized Christians to receive the Blessed Sacrament at its altars, if they desire the Body and Blood of Christ, and if, in the words of the Invitation, they "truly and earnestly repent of their sins and are in love and charity with their neighbors." The following directions are intended to assist our visitors and guests in receiving Holy Communion.

1. The People approach the altar rail through the center aisle and proceed to find a space at the rail. At the 11:00 a.m. Sunday service, the Sacrament is distributed at the High Altar and, on most Sundays for convenience and accessibility, also at the Chantry Chapel Altar. It is customary at Saint Thomas Church to kneel, but it is acceptable to stand.
2. While we are familiar with, and respect, other customs, Episcopalians customarily place their right palm across the left for the priest to place the Host (the wafer of consecrated Bread) upon the open palm. Then raise the Host to your mouth and consume it.
3. When the chalice minister offers the consecrated Wine, it is helpful if you assist by gently touching the base of the chalice, guiding the cup to your lips, and taking a small sip.
4. Sharing the common chalice is a powerful sacramental symbol and privilege enjoyed by Anglicans for nearly 500 years. This practice has never been associated with the spread of any illness. Nevertheless, persons who do not wish to receive the consecrated Wine for any reason may accept the Host only; Holy Communion is fully received under either form of Bread or Wine. Simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate to the chalice minister that you are declining to receive from the cup. Some people prefer to receive Communion by intinction, that is, dipping the wafer into the wine. You may leave the wafer in your palm and allow the chalice minister to dip it and place it on your tongue. If you prefer to intinct for yourself, ***be careful to avoid touching the wine with your finger-tips.***
5. Please do not drink from the chalice.
6. Please remove any gloves before receiving the Host. We would ask ladies to remove lipstick before drinking from the chalice.
7. After the person following you has received the chalice, rise and return to your pew.
8. Many people bow or genuflect when they leave their pews to approach the Blessed Sacrament. Many others make the sign of the cross when they receive Communion and at other times during the service. These acts are traditional personal devotions done out of respect for the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. We welcome these signs of reverence, but we do not require them or expect them of everyone.
9. The Blessed Sacrament is perpetually reserved at Saint Thomas Church for prayer and devotion as well as for the Communion of the sick and homebound. The Aumbry for the Sacrament, which is on the right side of the High Altar sanctuary, or in the Tabernacle on the Chantry Chapel Altar, is marked by a white light which burns constantly.
10. If you wish to come to the altar rail to receive only a blessing from the priest (without receiving Communion), cross your arms over your chest, and the priest will bless you. Remain in that posture until the person following you has finished receiving both the Bread and the Wine. You may receive the priest's blessing whether you are a baptized Christian or not, ***but if you are not yet baptized as a Christian, you should refrain from taking the Sacrament of Holy Communion.***

We want everyone to feel welcome and able to worship the Lord with us at SAINT THOMAS CHURCH, especially when we celebrate the Holy Eucharist. This is a House of Prayer for all people. If you are interested in becoming fully initiated as a Christian and being baptized (and confirmed), please contact one of the Clergy. We would be delighted to speak with you. Whoever you are, welcome to the Body of Christ!

PLEASE LEAVE THIS CARD IN THE PEW