



*St Michael with St Mary*

## **Communion Together An All-Age Service**

Please return this booklet to the back of church as you leave

It costs over £300 per day to maintain the ministry of our parish. If you are not on a regular giving scheme to St Michaels or St Marys, please give generously on the plate by the door - and consider using a Gift Aid envelope if you are a UK taxpayer.

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## Welcome to St Michael's!

This is a **Communion** service: we hear God's Word through the Bible, and share Jesus' presence in bread and wine.

This is an **all-age** service: we want everyone to get something from it. In the north aisle, in addition to soft toys and books, there are children's worksheets about today's theme, and *My Communion Book*, a child's guide to help understand this service a little better.

This is an **interactive** service: we aim to engage different learning styles.



## We are sent out

*During the song the parents and candidates gather at the front*

### Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**



### The Blessing

*We share these or other words  
as we prepare to serve God in the world.*

May God keep you in all your days.  
May Christ shield you in all your ways.  
May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.  
May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you  
and pour upon you blessing and light. **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Do stay for refreshments in the Parish Centre  
(the freestanding building in the churchyard)*



Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,  
we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.  
Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
*they* may be cleansed from sin and born again.  
Renewed in your image, may *they* walk by the light of faith  
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## Baptism

N, I baptize you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.  
**Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ**  
**against sin, the world and the devil,**  
**and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.  
**We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;**  
**we are children of the same heavenly Father;**  
**we welcome you.**

*Please turn back to the prayers on page 6*

## Practical stuff

Sit where you feel most comfortable. Apart from a few  
**seats** for people with specific jobs, no spaces are reserved.

**Toilets** and **baby change** facilities are available. Please see a  
steward for access.

If you have **hearing amplification** use setting 'T';  
the strongest signal is in the main body of the church  
forward from the entrance door.

If you need **large print** please ask a steward.



## We Gather

### Song

Please stand

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### We say sorry

*We use this or another form of confession*

Father,  
we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you again.  
Have mercy on us,  
bring us back to yourself  
as those who once were dead  
but now have life through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*We hear this or another form of absolution*

May the God of love and power  
forgive us and free us from our sins,  
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,  
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Profession of Faith

Let us affirm our faith:

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?  
**I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**who keeps his promise for ever.**

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

We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water  
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.  
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.  
Through water you led the children of Israel  
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.  
In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John  
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Christ,  
to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.  
We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.  
In it we are buried with Christ in his death.  
By it we share in his resurrection.  
Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

## Baptism Appendix

### Presentation of the candidates

*Stand and face the font*

*A question for everyone:*

Faith is the gift of God to his people.  
In baptism the Lord is adding to our number  
those whom he is calling.  
People of God, will you welcome *these children*  
and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?  
**With the help of God, we will.**

*Questions for the parents and godparents:*

The Church receives *these children* with joy.  
Today we are trusting God for *their* growth in faith.  
Will you pray for *them*,  
draw *them* by your example into the community of faith  
and walk with *them* in the way of Christ?  
With the help of God, we will.

In baptism *these children* begin *their* journey in faith.  
You speak for *them* today.  
Will you care for *them*,  
and help *them* to take *their* place  
within the life and worship of Christ's Church?  
With the help of God, we will.

### The Decision

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.  
So I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you repent of your sins?  
**I repent of my sins.**

Do you renounce evil?  
**I renounce evil.**

## The Gloria

*We may sing these or other words of praise  
following the lead of the minister*

*Stand*

Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father!

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father!**

To God be glory forever!

**To God be glory forever!**

Alleluia, Amen!

**Alleluia, Amen!** (x3)

Glory to God, glory to God, Son of the Father...

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit...

## We listen and respond to God

### The Collect

*The prayer for the day*

### A reading from the Bible

### A talk, story, or activity

*Sit*

*If there is a Baptism please turn to page 12*

## The Creed

*We may use this or another summary of Christian belief*

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## The Prayers

*We pray for the Church, the world,  
our community, and people in need.*



*If there is a Baptism please turn to page 15*

## We are sent out

*We share these or other words  
as we prepare to serve God in the world.*

**May God keep you in all your days.  
May Christ shield you in all your ways.  
May the Spirit bring you healing and peace.  
May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you  
and pour upon you blessing and light.  
Amen.**

**Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ, Amen.**



*Do stay for refreshments in the Parish Centre  
(the freestanding building in the churchyard)*

*Please come to one of the altars.*

*If you take Communion in another church you are very welcome to do so here.*

*If Communion is something you are not used to we would love to share a prayer of blessing; please carry this booklet to indicate that this is what you would like.*

## **Prayer After Communion**

*We may say these or other words of thanks*

**Living God,**  
**your Son made himself known to his disciples**  
**in the breaking of bread:**  
**open the eyes of our faith,**  
**that we may see him in all his redeeming work;**  
**who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.**  
**Amen.**

## **Song**

## **The Meal**

### **The Peace**

*We share these or other words*

Peace to you from God who is our Father.  
Peace from Jesus Christ, who is our peace.  
Peace from the Holy Spirit, who gives us life.  
The peace of God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit -  
be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

## **Song**

### **The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

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

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

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

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.  
When we turned away  
you did not reject us,  
but came to meet us in your Son.  
**You embraced us as your children**  
**and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life  
that we might live in him and he in us.  
**He opened his arms of love upon the cross**  
**and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends  
he took bread, and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.  
**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*We may sing this or other music as we prepare for Communion*

**O Lamb of God, come cleanse our hearts  
And take our sin away.  
O Lamb of God, your grace impart,  
And let our guilty fear depart,  
Have mercy, Lord we pray,  
Have mercy, Lord we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, our lives restore,  
Our guilty souls release.  
Into our lives your Spirit pour  
And let us live for evermore  
In perfect heav'nly peace,  
In perfect heav'nly peace.**