



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  

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Environment Programme

# **A Eucharist for St Francis**

# THE GATHERING

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit

*All* **Amen**

The Lord be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

Human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

Christ came in humility to share our lives:

Forgive our pride

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people:

Forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy,

**Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:

Forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy,

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself  
to the childlike and lowly of heart:

grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis,

we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness

and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*Song (we stand to sing)*

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
In the Lord, I will rejoice,  
Look to God, do not be afraid  
Lift up your voices the Lord is near,  
Lift up your voices the Lord is hear. (x3)

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

He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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

*Silence may be kept, or a few words of reflection offered.*

*Please sit or kneel for a time of prayer*

*We sing the Prayer of St Francis:*

1. Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you:

*Refrain: Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

2. Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
Where there is darkness, only light;  
And where there's sadness, ever joy: *Refrain*

3. Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life. *Refrain*

## THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*A Minister introduces the peace with a suitable sentence.*

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

*Minister*                    Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Song (we stand to sing)*

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek, and you shall find.  
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.  
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

3. We shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds out from the mouth of God.  
Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed,  
By whose love heaven is opened,  
By whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.  
**Blessed be God forever.**

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*All* The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

*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 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.  
*All* **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.  
*All* **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.

*All* **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.

*All* **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.

*All* **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:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.

*All* **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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

*All* **Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

*All* **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*All are welcome to receive the bread and wine, or if preferred a prayer of blessing*

### *Prayer after Communion*

Blessed Francis,  
Your example shows us how we should live in respectful solidarity  
with our sisters and brothers who lack the good things of the earth.  
Your actions are an example of how we should care for creation,  
how to be joyful and generous in our service of our loving God,  
and how to open our eyes to the presence of God in everyone.  
Help us to be like you, sharing the joy and compassion of God  
with all whom we meet, and treating everyone  
and the whole of creation with reverence and respect.  
**Amen.**

*CAFOD Prayer for St Francis*

### *We stand to sing:*

1. All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
    O praise ye! Alleluia!  
O brother sun with golden beam,  
O sister moon with silver gleam!  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain,  
by which all creatures ye sustain,  
    O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. O sister water, flowing clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
    Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O brother fire who lights the night,  
providing warmth, enhancing sight,  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
    Alleluia! Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
let them God's glory also show!  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. All ye who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
    O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on him cast your care!  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. And thou, our sister, gentle death,  
    waiting to hush our latest breath,  
        Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou ledest home the child of God, and  
Christ our Lord the way has trod, O praise ye!  
    O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

7. Let all things their Creator bless,  
    and worship him in humbleness,  
        O praise ye! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
    O praise ye! O praise ye!  
    Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour his blessing upon all things created, and upon you his children, that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples, and the blessing....

*Minister*

*All*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**