



The Online Eucharist on the Sundays of Lent



ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Welcome to **St Margaret's Lee Online** and to this Eucharist. In it we recall the last meal of Christ with his friends in the Upper Room, and we recognise him in the breaking of the bread. Although our faith is grounded in history, this service is not a nostalgic looking back to the events of the past: it is a celebration that in the Eucharist Christ is truly present to us now, and a promise of the glory that will be ours when the whole universe is made complete in him.

The Season of Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults. This history explains the characteristic notes of Lent – self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study, and preparation for Easter, to which almsgiving has traditionally been added.

*Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.
(Latin, before 12th century)*

As the candidates for baptism were instructed in Christian faith, and as penitents prepared themselves, through fasting and penance, to be readmitted to communion, the whole Christian community was invited to join them in the process of study and repentance, the extension of which over forty days would remind them of the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness, being tested by Satan.

The president says

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

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome and introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from Whom no secrets are hidden:
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 president invites the people to confess their sins using these or other suitable words

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

All Almighty God,
**our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The Kyrie Eleison is said

**Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

**Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

The president says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

The president says or sings

Let us pray

The president says the Collect, and all respond

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Sit

**First Reading
Romans 8. 6-11**

The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

At the end the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

**Gospel Reading
John 11. 1 - 45**

The following or another suitable acclamation heralds the Gospel reading.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord,

Whoever follows me will have the light of life.

All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The reader says

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also

weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

At the end the reader says

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Talk/Reflection

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

All **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.**

Thanksgiving Prayers

Let us pray for the church and the world and let us thank God for his goodness

Kneel

Our Prayers follow, including a time of silence for you to share your own personal prayers. Please do type your prayers so that they come up on the screen. Our time of prayer will finish with the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Stand

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace with this or another suitable sentence

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

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

The president says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please feel free to offer the BSL sign of peace to those you are with or us via the web.

**Preparation of the Table
Taking of the Bread and Wine
The Consecration Prayer**

The president takes the bread and says

All With this bread that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

The president takes the wine and says

All With this wine that we bring
we shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body,
wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.
All **we shall remember Jesus.**

Lord God, source of all holiness,
breathe your spirit upon your people
and upon this bread and wine,
that they may become for us your body and your blood.
For on the night before he died,
gathered round the table with his friends,
Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it

The president breaks the consecrated bread

and said: "Take, eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me".

In the same way he took the cup of wine, blessed it

The president blesses the consecrated wine

and said: "Drink this all of you,
this is my blood which is shed for you.
Take and share it in remembrance of me."
And as the bread and wine which we now eat and drink,
are changed into us,
may we be changed again into you.
Bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh,
Loving and caring in the world.

**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.**

Sisters and brothers see this bread and this wine.
In them God comes to us,
so that we may come to God.

Giving of Communion

The president receives communion on behalf of the whole church.

The president then invites to all who are at home participating to say the prayer for spiritual communion

**All My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be
separated from You.
Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray

All Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ
You have put your life into our hands
Now we put our lives into your hands

**All Take us, renew and remake us.
Lead us on and take us with you.
Amen.**

The president says

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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.

All **Amen.**

The president says

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