

Welcome to the St. Christopher's Anglican Church, Wooster, Ohio!

We are a community of Christians simply seeking to follow Jesus Christ. We worship in the rhythms and patterns of the ancient church in accordance with the Anglican tradition. Our worship is participatory for all who attend. Everyone has a part to play, as the word liturgy itself means "work of the people". We all stand to praise God, sit to learn from his Word, and kneel and pray prayers of confession, intercession, and thanksgiving. Our order of worship is found in its entirety in the following pages.

If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, we rejoice that you have joined us to worship. If you are seeking after truth, we welcome you to this community of those who believe Jesus Christ to be the Way, the Truth, and the Life. If you are looking for a church home, we would love for you to call St. Christopher's your own.

Christ - Scripture - Prayer - Community

Christ is the center of all things for St. Christopher's. Our patron saint's name means Christ-bearer, which we seek to do as a community of faith. Our Lord speaks to us through scripture and prayer, and he is manifested in the world through his community, the church. These core values lay the foundation of our work in the building of the kingdom of God in Wooster and the surrounding communities we inhabit.

THE ORDER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE LORD'S SUPPER
or
HOLY COMMUNION,
COMMONLY CALLED
THE HOLY EUCHARIST
Renewed Ancient Text

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

THE ACCLAMATION

The People standing, the Celebrant says this or a seasonal greeting (pages 145-146)

Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

In the season of Lent

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

From Easter Day until the Eve of Pentecost

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!
People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant prays (and the People may be invited to join)

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

Then follows the Summary of the Law, or The Decalogue (page 100).

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.

MATTHEW 22:37-40^r

THE KYRIE

The Celebrant and people pray

Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.
Christ, have mercy upon us. *or* **Christ, have mercy.** *or* **Christe eleison.**
Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy. Kyrie eleison.

or this

THE TRISAGION

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

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

The Gloria or some other song of praise may be sung or said, all standing. It is appropriate to omit the song of praise during penitential seasons and days appointed for fasting.

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Officiant Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect.

People **Amen.**

Merciful God,
who by your Spirit raised up your servant Teresa of Avila
to reveal to your Church the way of perfection:
grant that her teaching
may awaken in us a longing for holiness,
until we attain to the perfect union of love
in Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans. (Romans 8:22-27)

For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 138 Page 454 in Book of Common Prayer.

We will pray in unison.

- 1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; *
 even before the gods will I sing praises to you.
- 2 I will worship toward your holy temple and praise your
 Name, because of your loving-kindness and truth, *
 for you have magnified your Name and your word
 above all things.
- 3 When I called upon you, you heard me *
 and gave me increase of strength.

- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, *
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, *
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- 6 For though the Lord be high, yet he has respect for the
lowly;*
as for the proud, he beholds them from afar.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
yet shall you refresh me; *
you shall stretch forth your hand upon the furiousness
of my enemies, and your right hand shall save me.
- 8 The Lord shall make good his loving-kindness toward me; *
your mercy, O Lord, endures for ever; despise not
the works of your own hands.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

The Holy Gospel

(John 14:1-7)

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. John.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.’
⁵Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going.

How can we know the way?’ ⁶ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE LESSONS

One or more Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading from _____.

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Lesson the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Or the Reader may say Here ends the Reading.

Silence may follow.

A psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each reading.

All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according
to _____.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

On Sundays, other Major Feast Days, and other times as appointed, all stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Celebrant first saying

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

Celebrant and People

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.

[†] *The phrase "and the Son" (Latin filioque) is not in the original Greek text. See the resolution of the College of Bishops concerning the filioque in Documentum Foundations (page 768).*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Deacon or other person appointed says these prayers, or the Prayers of the People in the Anglican Standard Text. The reader pauses after each bidding, and the people may add petitions, either silently or aloud.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying,
“hear our prayer.”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For *N.*, our Archbishop, and *N.*, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service [especially _____].

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

For all those who have departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, [especially _____,] in thanksgiving let us pray.

Reader Lord, in your mercy:

People **Hear our prayer.**

Additional petitions may be added. Thanksgivings may also be invited.

The Celebrant concludes with this or some other appropriate Collect.

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.**

The Celebrant may then say the Exhortation.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

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

The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

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. MATTHEW 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. JOHN 3:16^T

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

I TIMOTHY 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. I JOHN 2:1-2^T

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

THE OFFERTORY

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the provided sentences of Scripture.

During the Offertory a hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung. The Deacon or Priest prepares the Holy Table for the celebration. Representatives of the Congregation may bring the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Deacon or Priest.

The People stand while the offerings are presented. The following may be said.

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.**

I CHRONICLES 29:11, 14^T

THE SURSUM CORDA

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

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.**

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Here a Proper Preface (pages 152–158) is normally sung or said

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:

THE SANCTUS

Celebrant and People

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.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become

subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and here may break the bread; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.*

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it,* and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat; this is my Body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Celebrant and People together pray

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.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

*If the consecrated Bread was not broken earlier, the Celebrant breaks it now.
A period of silence is kept.*

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]**

or this

Celebrant [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover Lamb has been
sacrificed, once for all upon the Cross.
People **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

Celebrant and People together may say

**We do not presume to come to this your table, O 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
whose character is always to have 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 AGNUS DEI

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here

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.]

or this

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

JOHN 1:29^T, REVELATION 19:9

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.

Spiritual Communion

When the Sacrament is unavailable to you

✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

OUR FATHER...

The Collect: Let the power of the Holy Spirit come upon me, O Lord I beseech you: that he may both mercifully cleanse my heart and defend me from any adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle (Revelation 3:20): Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

The Gospel (John 15:5): I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Take a moment to think of the failures of the past week. Recall any sins you have committed since your last Communion and offer them to Christ.

Act of Contrition

O God, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, for you are so good. Forgive me for Jesus' sake, and I will try to sin no more.

Act of Reception (of Spiritual Communion)

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ preserve my body and soul unto everlasting life. Amen

Act of Praise and Thanksgiving

✠ Blessed, praised, and adored be Jesus Christ on his throne of glory in Heaven, and in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar. Amen.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. God of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe defend me. In the hour of my death call me, and bid me come to you, that with your saints I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

✠ In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together say the following, or the Post Communion Prayer in the Anglican Standard Text

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have
given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives this or an alternate 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.**

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung after the Blessing (or following the Dismissal).

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Priest, may dismiss the People with these words

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or this

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or this

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power
of the Holy Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or this

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

From the Easter Vigil through the Day of Pentecost, "Alleluia, alleluia" is added to any of the dismissals. It may be added at other times, except during Lent and on other penitential occasions.

The People respond

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.