

## 8am Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Maidenhead

### 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.**

### Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**All Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

## The Creed

**All** We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only 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 worshipped 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.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*These responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy

**All** hear our prayer.

*And at the end*

Merciful Father,

**All** accept these prayers

**for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **Confession**

**All** Almighty God,

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**maker of all things, judge of all people,**

**we acknowledge and lament our many sins**

**and the wickedness we have committed time after time,  
by thought, word and deed against your divine majesty.**

**We have provoked your righteous anger**

**and your indignation against us.**

**We earnestly repent,**

**and are deeply sorry for these our wrongdoings;**

**the memory of them weighs us down,**

the burden of them is too great for us to bear.  
Have mercy upon us,  
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father.  
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and grant that from this time forward  
we may always serve and please you in newness of life,  
to the honour and glory of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

*(or)*

*All* Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love,  
and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed,  
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 lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.

Amen.

## The Comfortable Words

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says  
to all who truly turn to him:  
Come to me, all who labour 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*

Hear what apostle Paul says:  
This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance,  
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

*1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear what apostle John says:  
If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father,  
Jesus Christ the righteous;  
and he is the propitiation for our sins.

*1 John 2.1,2*

## Preface

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you, and *saying*:

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

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

**We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold 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 nature 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 Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All 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.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

Lord and heavenly Father,  
we offer you through your dear Son Jesus Christ this our sacrifice  
of praise and thanksgiving.  
Grant that by his merits and death,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.  
And here we offer and present to you, O Lord,  
ourselves, our souls and our bodies,  
to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice;  
fill us all who share in this holy communion  
with your grace and heavenly blessing.  
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,

to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this  
the duty and service that we owe.  
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

*(or)*

Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**