

A Celtic Evening Eucharist

ST. MARKS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Priest: Spirit of the Risen Christ, shine into our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love.
The Light of Christ has come into the world.

All: **The Light of Christ has come into the world.**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray. (*Collect of the Day*)

The Gospel

Before the Gospel, the response is **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Gospel, the response is **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Silence

Leader: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer:

for the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church; [*silence*]

for those who minister in Christ's name; [*silence*]

for our community, our nation, and our world; [*silence*]

for the sick and all those in need, [*especially...*] [*silence*]

for those who have died and those they have left behind. [*silence*]

We look to you, O Lord.

All: **Hear us, gracious Lord, and come to our aid.**

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **For the ways we have sinned against you, O God;**

for the ways we have hurt those around us;

for the ways we have grieved the Spirit who is within us;

for the good things we have failed to do:

Forgive us, Lord, forgive us.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy upon you; forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen your body, mind and spirit, and keep you close to the heart of God.

All: **Amen!**

Priest: Peace be in your thinking. Peace be in your hearts. Peace with creation. Peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you. (*Signs of Peace are now exchanged.*)**

The Offering

Priest: All things come from you, O Lord.

All: **And of your own have we given you.**

Priest: Now let us lay aside all cares of this life, that we, like the angels, may offer our worship, joining with them in singing to the thrice-holy and life-giving Trinity:

All: **Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty!
Who was, and is, and is to come!
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!**

Priest: We bless you, High King of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made; they will become our spiritual food and drink.

All: **Blessed be God forever.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

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

Priest: Let us give thanks for all the Lord has done.

All: **God leads us through the years.**

Priest: High King of the universe, from the void you brought forth the earth. You breathe wisdom into all your creatures, till we reflect your Threefold friendship. In our pain and sorrow we cry out to you, tender Lamb, slain for our salvation, perfect sacrifice for our sins. By the power of your Holy Spirit may these gifts of bread and wine be for us the body and blood of Christ,

who on the night he was betrayed, took bread, gave you thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends and said: *Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you.*

After supper He took the cup, gave you thanks, and said to them: *Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

We have seen the Son of the living God stretched out on a Cross. The Cross is like the parting of the day from night. Yet through the cross, all may now proclaim:

All: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Priest: Risen Christ, we welcome you. You are the flowering bough of creation; from you cascades music like a million stars, truth to cleanse a myriad souls. From you flee demons, evil, and all ill-will. Around you rejoice the angels of light. Father, send us the tender Spirit of the Lamb; feed us with the Bread of Heaven. May we be filled to the fullest with your holiness. **AMEN!**

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

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

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: [Alleluia!] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. [Alleluia!]

The "Alleluia's" are omitted during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent

Invitation to Communion

Priest: This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him, and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; you who have been here often, and you who have not been for a long time or ever before. You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you. It is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

The Communion of the People

You are invited to come forward to receive the sacrament. Kneel or stand at the altar rail as you choose. If you prefer, you may ask for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

Following Communion, the people are invited to stand as they are able for the close of the service.

Priest: Heaven is intertwined with earth. [Alleluia!]

All: ***We have taken the divine life into ourselves.[Alleluia!]***

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Priest: And so now, each may say:

All: **I rise up clothed in the strength of Christ.**

I shall not be imprisoned. I shall not be harmed.

I shall not be downtrodden. I shall not be left alone.

I shall not be tainted. I shall not be overwhelmed.

I go clothed in Christ's white garments.

I go freed to weave Christ's patterns.

I go loved to serve Christ's weak ones.

Priest: The shield of God go before you:

the love of God to enfold you;

the peace of God to still you;

the Spirit of God to fill you;

the saints of God to inspire you.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, rest upon you and shine out through you, this hour, this night, for ever. **Amen**

Priest: Go forth in the Name of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God**

