Christmas and Epiphany

The Scottish Liturgy (1982) is an authorised service of the Scottish Episcopal Church as defined in Canon 22. The Eucharistic Prayers have first been authorised by the College of Bishops for experimental use in 2016.

[Please join in with the words in **bold type**.]

PREPARATION

1 Opening hymn [*Stand*]

2 Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

3 Collect for Purity [*Stand*]

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.

4 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.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

5 Gloria

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.

6 Collect - *today's prayer on the weekly sheet*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

7 Old Testament reading [*Sit*]

8 Hymn or Psalm [*Stand*]

9 New Testament reading [*Sit*]

10 Gospel

When it is announced:
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

At the end:
Give thanks to the Lord for this glorious Gospel.
Praise to Christ our Lord.

11 Sermon [*Sit*]

12 Nicene Creed [*Stand*]

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 substance with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate of 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.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped
and glorified.
He 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.

13 Intercessions [*Kneel or sit*] - Prayer *is offered for the world, for those in need, and for the Church.*

These prayers may follow the forms on pp. 15 -19.

14 Confession and Absolution

God is love and we are God's children,
there is no room for fear in love.
We love because God loved us first.
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence

God our Father, we confess to you
and to our fellow members in the Body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry.
Forgive us our sins,
and deliver us from the power of evil.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

God, who is both power and love,
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by the Holy Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

15 Peace [*Stand*]

We meet in Christ's name
Let us share his peace.

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

16 Offertory hymn [*Stand*]
During this hymn, a collection is taken

17 Offering

Let us present our offerings to the Lord.
Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory,
the splendour and the majesty; for everything
in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own we give you.

[*or*]

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made: it will become for us the bread of life.
Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands; it will become the cup of our salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

18 The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

[*For Epiphany, turn to page 9.*]

[*The Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas continues here:*]

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Day and night celebrate your glory
till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your Word became flesh,
and (*on this night/day*)[1] was born of the Virgin Mary.
He emptied himself, taking our human form,
That through his incarnation and passion
we might come to share in his divine nature.

Filled with the Spirit,
who at the first Creation
moved over the face of the waters,
and overshadowed the blessed Virgin at Nazareth,
we await with joy the fulfilment of your new Creation.

As children of your redeeming purpose
who celebrate the birth of your Son,
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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.

[1] Words in brackets should only be used at midnight or during the day on Christmas Day.

[*Kneel or sit*]
Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us,
and lived for a time among us,
that we might for ever live with you.
In the manger at Bethlehem,
in his flight to Egypt,
and as the carpenter's son,
the Only-begotten bent low to meet us.

Obedient to your calling,
he accepted death on the cross.
When you exalted him on the third day,
and bestowed on him the name above all names,
he opened the gate of glory
that we might be your children,
and share in his kingdom of Peace.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work
for which he came into the world,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat.
This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
"Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

[*The service continues on page 12.*]

[*The Eucharistic Prayer for Epiphany continues here:*]

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.
Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,
and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.
Day and night celebrate your glory
till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son,
you have revealed yourself to the world.
By the guiding of a star,
you made him known to the nations
as the son of David and king of Israel;
that in following him,
we might be led from darkness
and into his marvellous light.

Filled with the Spirit,
who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan,
we who are baptised in his name
strive for his heavenly kingdom
in whose radiance we are transfigured
and the earth is transformed.

As children of your redeeming purpose
(*who celebrate the manifestation of your Son*)[2],
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

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.

[2] Words in brackets are suitable for use on the feast of the Epiphany.

[*Kneel or sit*]
Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Father.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us.
Our hope is built on him
in whom you are well pleased.
Having been shown to the world
as your beloved Son,
he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom.
The blind received their sight,
the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed,
and the captives set free.
At his word, water became wine,
the hungry were filled with bread,
and the dead were raised.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work
for which he came into the world,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat.
This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
"Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us, who are baptised into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the Virgin Mary,
the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

The Sharing of the Bread and the Wine

19 Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken for the life of the world.
Lord, unite us in this sign.

20 The Lord's Prayer *is said or sung*

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

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.
Do not bring us
to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.

21 Communion Song *is said or sung*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

or

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

22 Communion *The priest invites the people to the altar*

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Communion; and everyone is freely offered a blessing at the altar rail.

At the giving of the bread:
The Body of Christ given for you.

At the giving of the cup:
The Blood of Christ shed for you.

The Communicant replies Amen *each time.*

There may be an anthem sung during this time.

23 Communion hymn [*Sit*]

THANKSGIVING AND SENDING OUT

23 Sentence

Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to all God's people.

24 Prayers *One of the following is used:*

(a) Father, we have broken the bread which is Christ's body, we have tasted the wine of his new life. We thank you for these gifts by which we are made one in him and drawn into that new creation which is your will for all the world; through him who died for us and rose again, your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

(b) 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. Amen.

(c) Father, your steadfast purpose is the completion of all things in your Son. May we who have received the pledges of the kingdom, live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

25 Blessing

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

[*or*]

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

26 Closing hymn [*Stand*]

27 Dismissal

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

Appendix FORMS OF INTERCESSION

Form 1

Through Jesus, whom we confess as Lord,
we give thanks and praise to the Father,
calling on him who is judge of all:
Father, your kingdom come.
Father, your kingdom come.

For all the peoples of the world;
that they may know you as the God of peace,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For nations, for leaders and governments;
that integrity may mark all their dealings,
we pray to you O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For all who labour for righteousness;
that your presence and help may give them courage,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For communities torn by dissension and strife;
that your forgiveness may bring them healing,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For the anxious, the lonely, the bereaved;
that consolation and peace may be theirs,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For the Church, your household and family;
that she may be firm in the confession of her hope,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For ... our Bishop, and for all who bear Christ's name;
that their lives may proclaim your glory,
we pray to you, O Lord:
Father, your kingdom come.

For those who are separated from us by death;
that theirs may be the kingdom which is unshakeable,
we pray to you, O Lord:

Father, your kingdom come.

O God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great Shepherd of the sheep:
make us perfect in all goodness to do your will
and to be what you would have us be;
through him to whom be glory for ever,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. [*Return to page 4*]

Form 2

O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
in whom you chose us, before the foundation
of the world, and destined us in love to be your own:
help us to pray for all your children.

For the life of the world;
that your peace may be known and may prevail:

For ...

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who suffer injury, death or loss;
that they may know the hope to which you call us:

For ...

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who exercise rule and authority;
that they may acknowledge your power:

For ...

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Church which is Christ's body;
that it may live for the praise of your glory:

For ...

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

O God, you exerted your strength and power
when you raised Christ from the dead,
putting everything in subjection beneath his feet:
accept the prayers which we offer in his name
for the world you have created and redeemed;
through him in whom you have set forth
the mystery of your will,
to unite all things in heaven and on earth,
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Return to page 4

Form 3

To him who alone is God
let us make our requests with thanksgiving,
through the one mediator, Christ Jesus.

I ask your prayers for peace
in the life of the world ...
Pray for God's peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all
who suffer injury, sickness and loss ...
Pray for all who are afflicted.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all
who wield authority and influence ...
Pray for all who exercise power.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all
whom we have wronged ...
Pray for all who hate us.

Silence

I ask your prayers for our bishop(s) ...
and for all whom Christ has appointed to his service...
Pray for God's people.

Silence

I ask your prayers for ...

Silence

Give thanks to God for all
in whom Christ has been honoured, (especially ...)

Silence

O God, whose will it is
that all should find salvation
and come to know the truth:
receive the prayers and petitions
which we offer in faith and love;
through him who gave proof of your purpose,
and who sacrificed himself to win freedom
for all mankind, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Return to page 4