

## DOXOLOGY

The congregation may join in singing the doxology or other music of praise and thanksgiving as the offering is presented.

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

This invitation is drawn from scripture and bids all who are baptized to participate in the sacrament.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

This prayer is both proclamation and supplication. In it God's creating, sustaining, and redeeming work are remembered, and the Holy Spirit is asked to bless the bread and wine and the act of sharing in faith, that the elements might become for us the body and blood of Christ and the time of sharing a time of communion with the living Christ. The prayer is divided into three parts which follow a responsive call to prayer. In the first part God is praised for the work of creation, the election of the people of Israel, etc. The *Sanctus* may be sung after the first portion of the prayer, as has been done since as early as the second century. The song is composed of the hymn of the heavenly court from Isaiah's vision (Isa. 6:3) and the cry of welcome with which the crowd welcomed Jesus on his entry into Jerusalem (Mt. 21:9), taken from Psalm 118:26. In the second section God's redemptive work in Christ is praised. A *memorial acclamation* may be sung or said before the third section of the prayer in which the work of the Holy Spirit is implored. The prayer concludes with the great Amen spoken by all the people. This verbal appropriation of the prayer by the people has been a part of the Great Thanksgiving since the second century.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION** (if not included in the Great Thanksgiving. Historically the words have been included in the prayer.)

## COMMUNION

The bread and wine are shared. A silence may be kept; instrumental or choral music may be offered or the congregation may join in singing hymns.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

This short prayer gives thanks for the grace received and asks the Lord to use us in witness and service to the world.

*When the Lord's Supper is not celebrated, the service continues after the Doxology with the*

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God is thanked for his blessings to us in Jesus Christ and the gifts are dedicated to the service of the kingdom of God on earth.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## SENDING

## HYMN

A hymn appropriate to the day is sung sending us forth to live out our discipleship in the world.

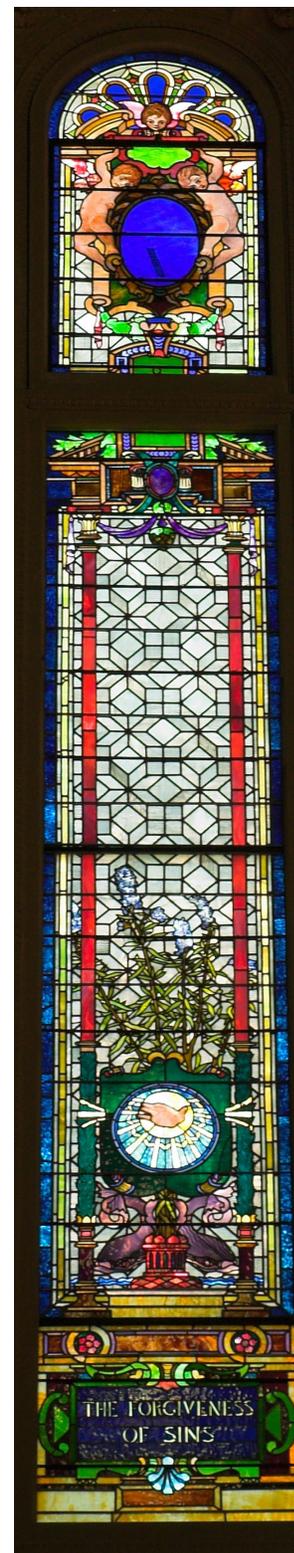
## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

A biblical charge is given and this is followed by the blessing. The benediction or blessing is neither a wish ("May God bless you) nor a prayer beseeching God's blessing. It is the declaration of God's blessing upon his people. It, like the charge, is drawn from scripture.

## POSTLUDE

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*The Service*

*For the*

*Lord's Day:*

*A*

*Guide*

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

The instrumental music that often precedes the Call to Worship or Opening Sentences enables us to center our thoughts on the reason for our gathering and on the one whose praise we prepare to extol.

#### [INTROIT]

This choral piece, sung by the choir, historically was “walking music” that provided for the entrance of worship leaders. It may still be used in that way for the acolyte or crucifer, lay leaders and clergy to enter the sanctuary.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP OR OPENING SENTENCES

This summons begins with “*The Lord be with you. And also with you,*” and is followed by scriptural sentences that call or invite us to worship.

#### HYMN OF PRAISE, PSALM, OR SPIRITUAL

We come into worship with gladness and gratitude, extolling the greatness, the goodness, and the majesty of the God who has made us, who has redeemed us, reconciled us, and is at work within us to make us new.

#### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

This brief collect or prayer reflects the biblical theme of the service or the theme of the particular day in the church's year.

#### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

We are invited in words of scripture that acknowledge both the sinfulness of humanity and the gracious mercy of God to confess our sins against God and neighbor.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

This is a corporate prayer that expresses the general confession of the people.

**KYRIE ELEISON** or **AGNUS DEI** (*Lord have mercy* or *Lamb of God*) In song we ask for God's mercy on us for the sins we have confessed.

#### DECLARATION OF PARDON

We are assured in words of scripture of the gracious forgiveness of God.

#### THE PEACE

We share the gift of reconciliation with one another, greeting each other with these or like words: “The peace of Christ be with you.”

#### CANTICLE, PSALM, HYMN OR SPIRITUAL

The act of confession is concluded with a glad song of thanksgiving. It can be as brief as the Gloria Patri or an appropriate stanza from a hymn.

### THE WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

This short prayer asks for the Holy Spirit's illumination of the word of God to us in scripture and sermon.

#### FIRST READING (OLD TESTAMENT)

##### PSALM

The psalm for the day is not technically one of the lessons, but a response to the Old Testament lesson. It ordinarily carries forth the theme of the reading. It may be responsorial (cantor and congregation) or metrical (hymn-form), but should be sung, not simply read.

#### SECOND READING (EPISTLE)

#### ANTHEM, HYMN, PSALM, CANTICLE, OR SPIRITUAL

This piece of music either reflects the theme of the second lesson or the theme for the day.

#### GOSPEL LESSON

#### SERMON

#### HYMN, CANTICLE, PSALM, OR SPIRITUAL

The hymn carries forth the message of the sermon.

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Here an affirmation of the church or an affirmation from scripture is recited by the people as a response to the word read and proclaimed.

#### [PASTORAL RITE OF THE CHURCH]

[Actions that might take place here include commissioning for special service in the church or beyond; recognition of various life-transitions such as graduation; brief reflections on the ministry and mission of the church, etc.]

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (when celebrated)

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### OFFERING

The gifts of the people are received as an expression of gratitude to God for his redemptive love in Christ and a symbol of the giving of ourselves in response to God's self-giving to us.

#### OFFERTORY

Choral or instrumental music may be offered as prayer as the offering is received.