

Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark
Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall
Living Thinking Loving Faith

IN THE COMPANY
OF CHRIST AND HIS OWN



*A Celebration of the Eucharist
in the Celtic tradition*

Welcome

Welcome to this Communion service. We hope that you find here some of what you are looking for and companions for the journey.

The service takes the form of a simple, yet profound, meal of thanksgiving and hospitality which originates in the ministry of Jesus and has characterised Christian worship through the centuries.

This celebration is inspired by contemporary Celtic Christianity, in particular the Iona Community. It possesses an earthy, essential quality – rooting us both in the world where we are called to live out our faith and in the life of God, Creator, Christ and Spirit of Life.



Preparing for Worship

O LORD,
open our eyes to your presence,
open our minds to your grace,
open our lips to your praises,
open our hearts to your love,
open our lives to your healing,
and be found among us. Amen.

David Adam (b 1936)

Order of Service

Gathering in Jesus' Name

Greeting & Prayer of Invocation

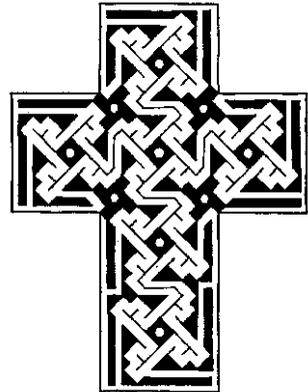
We meet in the name of God,
Creator, Christ and Spirit of Life. **Amen.**

May God be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

One or both of these prayers is used.

**Kindle in our hearts, O God,
the flame of love that never ceases
that it may burn in us,
giving light to others.
May we shine for ever in your temple,
set on fire with that eternal light,
even your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.**



Columba (c 521-97)

**I bind unto myself this day
the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word.
Praise to the Lord of my salvation:
salvation is of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

*From 'St Patrick's Breastplate'
trans C F Alexander (1818-95)*

Prayers of Penitence

Holy God, Maker of all.
Have mercy upon us.

Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor.
Have mercy upon us.

Holy Spirit, Breath of life.
Have mercy upon us.

Let us in silence confess our faults
and acknowledge our frailty.

Silence

A minister leads:

Before God
and in the company of God's people,
I confess my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

**MAY GOD forgive you,
Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

The gathered community responds:

**Before God
and in the company of God's people,
we confess our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you,
Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Amen.



Collect *(the church's prayer for the week or feast day)*

Attending to Scripture

Reading

A reading from the Bible or, occasionally, from another source may follow, concluding with an invitation and challenge:

Let us listen for the Word of the Lord.

Silence for reflection.

The Gospel

The Gospel is announced:

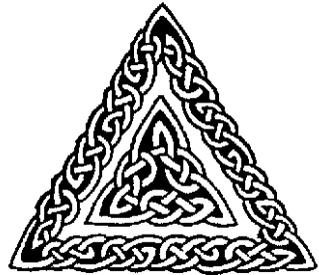
Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Homily or Silent Reflection

A brief talk and/or a period of silence may be offered.

Prayers of God's People

Jesus taught his disciples how to pray.
In his name and through God's Spirit,
we offer our prayers to the Father.

Prayers of intercession follow, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

One of these biddings and responses may be used.

Your kingdom come.
Your will be done.

God of our yearning.
We seek you.

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.**

Celebrating the Feast of God's Kingdom

The Story

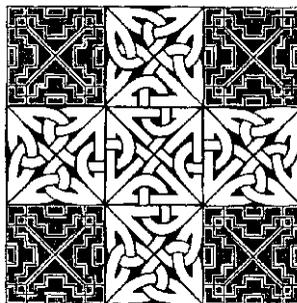
The Communion Table is prepared.

What we do here,
we do in imitation
of what Christ first did.

To his followers in every age,
Jesus gave an example and command
rooted in the experience
he shared with his disciples
in an upstairs room in Jerusalem.
So now we do as Jesus did.

We take this bread and this wine,
produce of the earth
and fruit of human labour.

In these, Jesus has promised to be present;
through these, Christ can make us whole.



Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, for you made us,
and before us, you made the world we inhabit,
and before the world, you made the eternal home
in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain
have their origin in you;
all that is lovely, all who are loving
point to you as their fulfilment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know
and the universe beyond our understanding,
we particularly praise you,
whom eternity cannot contain,
for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living,
for his compassion which changes our hearts,
for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities,
for his disturbing presence,
his innocent suffering,
his fearless dying,
his rising to life-breathing forgiveness,
we praise and worship you.

Here too our gratitude rises
for the promise of the Holy Spirit,
who even yet, even now,
confronts us with your claims
and attracts us to your goodness.



Therefore we gladly join our voices
to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of truth and love.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessèd is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

And now, lest we believe
that our praise alone fulfils your purpose,
we fall silent and remember him who came
because words were not enough.

Setting our wisdom,
our will,
our words aside,
emptying our hearts,
and bringing nothing in our hands,
we yearn for the healing,
the holding,
the accepting,
the forgiving
which Christ alone can offer.



Silence.

**MERCIFUL GOD,
send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit
to settle on this bread and wine
and fill them with the fullness of Jesus.**

**And let that same Spirit rest on us,
converting us from the patterns of this passing world,
until we conform to the shape of him
whose food we now share. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

The minister takes the bread and breaks it.

Among friends, gathered round a table,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said,
'This is my body - broken for you.'

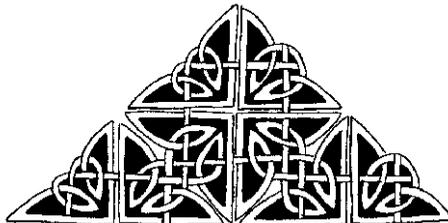
The minister takes the cup of wine.

Later he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and said,
'This is the new relationship with God
made possible because of my death.
Take it, all of you, to remember me.'

Invitation

This is the table not of the Church,
but of the Lord.
It has been made ready for those who love him
and who want to love him more.
So come, you who have much faith
and you who have little;
you who have tried to follow
and you who have failed.
Come, not because I invite you:
it is our Lord;
and it is his will that those who seek him
should meet him here.

*Everyone is invited to share in the Holy Communion
by receiving either the bread and wine, or a blessing.*



The Communion

The following words of administration may be used:

The bread of heaven.

The cup of life.

At the conclusion, a period of silence is shared.

Following Jesus into the World

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray.

**In gratitude,
in deep gratitude for
this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.**



**Take us out
to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.**

**Enable us to become
the people you are calling us to be
that we may live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.**

Gift of Peace

This or another invitation is used.

Christ who has nourished us,
is our peace.
Strangers and friends,
male and female,
old and young,
he has broken down the barriers
to bind us to him and to each other.

Having tasted his goodness,
let us share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.



Blessing

This or another form is used.

God be your comfort and your strength;
God be your hope and your support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Spirit of Life,
be among you, and all whom you love,
both living and departed, now and always. **Amen.**

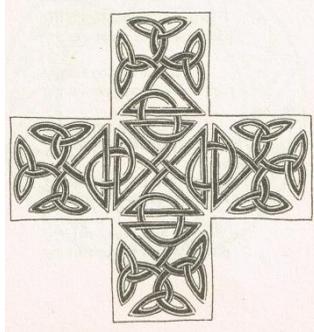
Closing Responses

Christ's food in our souls,
Our food shared like his.

Christ's life in our hands,
Our lives shaped by his.

Christ's love in our hearts,
Our love warmed by his.

Christ's peace on our path,
Our path following his.



Printed on Recycled Paper.

*This liturgy is based on an Order found in 'A Wee Worship Book',
Copyright © 1999, Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Glasgow, G51 3BA,
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C F Alexander's translation of St Patrick's Breastplate has been used.*

*The image on the front cover comes from the Book of Kells (circa 800 CE)
The Celtic artwork and prayer on page 1 come from 'The Edge of Glory,' by David Adam.*

May 2018