

The Liturgy of the Word, Holy Eucharist Rite II

Our hope is to help you feel confident when leading worship. Your ability to be prayerfully present as you lead the congregation will be your greatest gift to them—far more than getting everything right.

The instructions for the Eucharist in the Book of Common Prayer permit congregations gathering without a priest to worship using the familiar Holy Eucharist Rite II liturgy, except without Communion (BCP, 406).

Leading this service will require preparation.

Look through the service order and you'll notice a few decisions to make ahead of time:

- Will you include the confession of sin this morning?
- Will you lead the contemporary or traditional language Lord's Prayer?

Before the service, find the Collect of the Day.

You can find the Collect of the Day in the BCP between pages 211 and 236.

You can also find it online at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/lectionary-calendar>. Just click the date on the calendar.

It may also be included on your bulletin insert, along with the Scripture readings.

Everything else you need is here, and you'll find directions throughout to guide you.

Explore the place where you will lead before the service. Where will you sit? Sit there. Where will you stand so that you can be seen and heard? Stand there. You've probably seen worship countless times in your church, but move through the words and postures of the liturgy yourself in the space. You'll notice things about the liturgy that you may not reading it at home or worshipping in the congregation. And, you'll feel more confident when the congregation is gathered.

Bold black text indicates all the parts you will say as the leader.

Italicized red text indicates directions for you.

Parts of the service marked with a line beside them may be omitted.

(Music)

*If there is a procession, enter following behind the other ministers.
Stand facing the people and say*

Our worship begins on page 355 of the Book of Common Prayer

Opening Acclamation

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession of Sin

If there will be a confession of sin this morning, say

Turning to page 360, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Allow a period of silence for confession. Then, say

Most merciful God,

All we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we
have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and
we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy
on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in
your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Then say

**Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen us in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life.**

All Amen.

If the congregation has knelt for confession, invite them to stand.

The Gloria

Then, say,

We now sing (say) the Gloria, found on page 356.

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.

The Collect of the Day

Now invite the congregation to pray, saying

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Let us pray.

Then, pray the Collect of the Day.

You can find the Collects of the Day in the BCP between pages 211 and 236. You can also find it online at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/lectionary-calendar>. Just click the date on the calendar.

After the Collect ask the people to sit and go to your seat

The Lessons

The First Reading

A reader reads the Old Testament reading from the pulpit.

Psalm

A reader leads the people in reading the psalm.

The Second Reading

A reader reads the New Testament reading from the pulpit.

(Music)

The Gospel Reading

A reader reads the Gospel reading from pulpit.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

After a response to the Scripture, invite the congregation to stand to say the Nicene Creed

Let us stand and say the Nicene Creed together. It is found on page 358 of the BCP.

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.

The Prayers of the People

If your congregation uses a form of the Prayers of the People from the BCP, you will need to conclude the prayers with a collect. Below is one of several options; other collects can be found on pages 394-395 of the BCP.

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Collection of Offerings

You may then invite the gathering of offerings, saying

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

(Music)

Once the offering is collected, receive the offering plates from the ushers and place them on the altar.

The Lord's Prayer

Then, invite the people to pray the Lord's Prayer saying

We now pray together the Lord's Prayer, found on page 364.

Our Father in heaven

All 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom the power
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

***or* Our Father, who art in heaven,**

All 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 service then concludes either with the exchange of **Peace** or with **The Grace**.
Most congregations will want to close with the Peace.
Invite the people to share the Peace by saying*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

When the Peace has been shared, gather the congregation again to make any necessary announcements.

Afterward, if there will be a recessional hymn, indicate the hymn number to the congregation. Leave as you came in, following the other ministers out.

(Recessional Music)

There is no dismissal in this service.