

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

All Age Eucharist with 'Blessing of the Bags'



'I will bless you ... so that you will be a blessing'

Genesis 12.2

The Gathering

The president greets the people.

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

The Greeting

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

A hymn is sung.

Prayers of Penitence

Jesus says, 'If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest'. So let us bring all that we are to Jesus - including our sins and our failures to love - knowing that God in Christ forgives us.

Jesus came in humility to share our lives:

forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus came with good news for all people:

forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Jesus came in love to a world of suffering:

forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The president says:

May the God of love
bring you back to himself,
forgive you your sins,
and assure you of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

The following is sung.

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Father.**

To God be glory for ever!

To God be glory for ever!

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Glory to God, glory to God,
Son of the Father.

**Glory to God, glory to God,
Son of the Father.**

To God be glory for ever!

To God be glory for ever!

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit.

**Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit.**

To God be glory for ever!

To God be glory for ever!

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

Alleluia, amen.

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words
'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

The Collect is said, and all respond:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

*Either one or two readings from scripture precede the Gospel reading,
and a psalm, canticle or hymn may follow the first reading.*

At the end of each, the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Address

A Prayer of Blessing for our Bags

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers.

Today we give you thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and at church. May they be guided by your love.

We pray too for everyone who is making a fresh start this September - that they will have a sense of God's sustaining presence with them as they step into the future in faith.

All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us all.

Amen.

After the Address an anthem may be sung, or a piece of music played.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The president introduces the prayers.

One of these responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy: or Lord, hear us:
hear our prayer. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end:

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president introduces the Peace.

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

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

The Offertory

Thank you for your ongoing generosity to Esher Parish. Like most parishes there's been pressure on our income recently, so if you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. Donations can be made today or via JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/esherparish> or on our new Give A Little fundraising page at <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed on it while a hymn is sung or a piece of music is played.

The following prayer is used:

Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Question: Why is it right to give thanks and praise?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life, you created the universe,
where all living things reflect your glory.
You give us this great and beautiful earth,
to discover and to cherish.

You give us your love,
even when things go wrong.
Jesus knew hurt and pain.
Through him you wipe away our tears,
and fill us with your peace.

You made us all, each wonderfully different,
to join with the angels and proclaim your praise:

**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.**

We thank you, loving Father,
because, when we turned away,
you sent Jesus, your Son.
He gave his life for us on the cross
and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Question: Why do we share this bread and wine?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died,
when darkness had fallen,
Jesus took bread.
He gave thanks, broke it,
and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:
'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life.
As you feed us with these gifts,
send your Holy Spirit,
and change us more and more
to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Question: How do we follow Jesus Christ?

Answer: Listen, and we will hear.

Help us, Father, to love one another,
as we look forward to that day
when suffering is ended,
and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints
we give you glory, through Jesus Christ,
in the strength of the Spirit,
today and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour 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.
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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing together the Agnus Dei.

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

During the distribution, music may be sung or played.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The post communion prayer is said, then all say together:

**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.**

The Dismissal

Notices may be given.

A hymn is sung.

The Blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

PARISH OF ESHER

Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 8QS

Telephone: 01372 462282

Email: office@esherparish.org.uk

Website: www.esherparish.org.uk

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