St Paul’s Church: Holy Communion

**Welcome!** Please feel at home. You can join in with whatever you want to, but it’s fine just to watch! There’s a toilet at the back.

Everything you need will be on the screen, but this card might be helpful. Feel free to take it home!

There are groups for **children** most weeks during the service.

For **communion**, we welcome all who have been baptised and would normally receive in their own church. Anyone can come up for a prayer.

If you have any questions, please ask!

*The service takes us on a journey: (A) God gathers us all together, God meets us through (B) the Bible and (C) communion, and then (D) God sends us out again!*

## All Together

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| 1. While we **sing**, the choir and ministers process to their places. |  |
| 2. The minister **greets the people** in the Lord’s name (‘The Lord be with you’) and the people greet the minister (‘and also with you’). |  |
| 3. We can meet with God because he sent his Son Jesus to die for our sins. In response we **confess our sins** to God. The minister assures us of God’s forgiveness.We might **sing** again (perhaps using an ancient hymn, the **Gloria**: ‘Glory to God in the highest’). |  |
| 4. This part of the service finishes with a **prayer**. |   |

## Bible

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| 1. The Bible is God’s word for us today. We listen to God speaking to us in the **readings**. (We might also **sing** again.) |  |
| 2. The whole Bible points towards Jesus. This is why our final reading is taken from one of the four **Gospels**, which tell us about when Jesus was on earth. We stand to acknowledge his presence among us. |  |
| 3. God continues to speak to us through the **sermon**, in which the Bible readings are opened up and applied to our hearts and lives. |  |
| 4. After God has spoken to us, we respond by declaring our faith, normally using an ancient **creed**. |  |
| 5. We then respond (after any **notices**) by **praying** for the church and the world. |  |

## Communion

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| 1. We prepare to share this meal with Jesus by recognising the **peace** that we share, both with Jesus and with one another. |  |
| 2. While we **sing**, the table is prepared. |  |
| 3. In the **Eucharistic** (thanksgiving) **Prayer**, we praise and thank God for what he has done in Jesus (joining with the praises of the angels: ‘Holy, holy, holy’), we recall the occasion when Jesus instituted this meal, and we pray that God would bless us through it. We pray the **Lord’s Prayer**. |  |
| 4. The **bread is broken**. We might use an ancient prayer, ‘Lamb of God’. |  |
| 5. The minister **invites** the people to receive the bread and wine. We might respond to this invitation with a **prayer**. |  |
| 6. We **receive** the bread and the wine. We **sing** while this is happening. |  |
| 7. We **pray** together after all have received. |  |

## Dismissal

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| 1. The minister says a **blessing** over the people. |  |
| 2. We are **dismissed**: sent out into the world for God’s praise and glory. |  |
| 3. We **sing** as the service concludes (and then sit after the procession). |  |

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