

Book of Common Worship *Pastoral Edition*

Prepared by the Office of Theology and Worship
for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



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PREFACE



*“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of God’s glory.”*

ISA. 6:3

PRECEDING PAGE ILLUSTRATION:

The Bible begins and ends with trees,
from the garden of Eden (Gen. 2) to the river
of life (Rev. 22). At the center, too, is a tree—
the life-giving cross of Christ.



*The image of three equal rings,
joined in a circular dance, is a classic symbol
of the triune God. The figures at the center
also suggest the shape of a fish, another
ancient Christian symbol.*

PREFACE

This *Book of Common Worship, Pastoral Edition* includes portions of the full text edition that enable pastoral ministry. This smaller volume is convenient for use in a wide range of settings and provides liturgies for Lord's Day worship, baptism and reaffirmation of baptism, ordination and commissioning, weddings, funerals, services of healing and wholeness, occasions for pastoral care, dedications, and special services. This edition will also be helpful when making visits to hospitals or homes and includes liturgy for extended Communion with those unable to participate in public worship. For full commentary and additional resources, see the *Book of Common Worship*.

While much of the material in this edition is for use by an ordained minister, many of the resources can be used by others who are engaged in aspects of the church's ministry. "Pastoral" is therefore an inclusive term that embraces the ministry of compassion extended by elders, deacons, and other members of a faith community, as well as that of a pastor.

We pray that the *Book of Common Worship, Pastoral Edition* will be a welcome companion in pastoral ministry. May its use help the church express the love of God in every circumstance of life and embody the faithful service of Jesus Christ.

Soli Deo gloria,

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Key to Symbols and Abbreviations

- BCW *Book of Common Worship*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2018.
- GTG *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.
- PH *The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1990.
- PS *The Psalter: Psalms and Canticles for Singing*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1993.
- ... Ellipses in prayers indicate a pause for silent prayer.
- (000) Parenthetical page numbers point to alternate or additional resources in this book or in other volumes.
- [] Square brackets designate elements or sections of services that are sometimes omitted.
- WORD SMALL CAPS headings designate major sections and subsections of the liturgy.
- XYZ Acknowledgments and copyright or permissions information can be found in the back of this volume.

Rubrics (in red print) offer instructions for planners and leaders of worship as well as guidance on liturgical action.

Regular (nonbold) type is for the leader;
bold type is for the congregation.

1 Multiple options are indicated with numbers.

Biblical sources are cited in the right margin. *Bible 1:2–3*

THE LORD'S DAY



*After the sabbath, as the first day
of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and
the other Mary went to see the tomb.*

MATT. 28:1

PRECEDING PAGE ILLUSTRATION:

As the sun rose on the third day
after his crucifixion, Jesus' disciples
discovered that his tomb was empty.



*On the Lord's Day we break bread with the
risen Christ, just as his disciples did on the day
of his resurrection, and as Christians have done
ever since on the first day of the week.*

Preparation for Worship

Other prayers appropriate for preparation for worship may be found in Ancient and Classic Prayers (BCW 1099–119).

- 1 O Jesus, our great high priest,
be present with us
as you were present with your disciples,
and make yourself known to us
in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**
—Derived from the Mozarabic liturgy (7th century)
- 2 God of mercy,
grant that the Word you speak this day
may take root in our hearts,
and bear fruit to your honor and glory,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
—*Book of Common Prayer* (1549)
- 3 We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord,
trusting in our own goodness,
but in your all-embracing love and mercy.
We are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs
under your table,
but it is your nature always to have mercy.
So feed us with the body and blood
of Jesus Christ, your Son,
that we may forever live in him and he in us. **Amen.**
—*Book of Common Prayer* (1549)
- 4 Almighty God,
you pour out the spirit of grace and supplication
on all who desire it.
Deliver us from cold hearts and wandering thoughts,
that with steady minds and burning zeal
we may worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
—Derived from William Bright, *Ancient Collects and Other Prayers* (1862)
- 5 Almighty God, we pray for your blessing
on the church in this place.
Here may the faithful find salvation,
and the careless be awakened.

Here may the doubting find faith,
and the anxious be encouraged.
Here may the tempted find help,
and the sorrowful comfort.
Here may the weary find rest,
and the strong be renewed.
Here may the aged find consolation
and the young be inspired;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

—Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship* (1946)

- 6 Eternal God,
you have called us to be members of one body.
Join us with those
who in all times and places have praised your name,
that, with one heart and mind,
we may show the unity of your church,
and bring honor to our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

—Presbyterian *Service for the Lord's Day and Lectionary for the Christian Year* (1964)

- 7 God of grace,
you have given us minds to know you,
hearts to love you,
and voices to sing your praise.
Fill us with your Spirit,
that we may celebrate your glory
and worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

—Presbyterian *Service for the Lord's Day and Lectionary for the Christian Year* (1964)

- 8 Startle us, O God, with your truth,
and open our minds to your Spirit,
that we may be one with Christ our Lord,
and serve as faithful disciples,
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

—Presbyterian *Service for the Lord's Day and Lectionary for the Christian Year* (1964)

- 9 Bless us, O God,
with a reverent sense of your presence,
that we may be at peace
and may worship you with all our mind and spirit;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**^{LBW}

- 10 Loving God,
 you have so made us that we cannot live by bread alone,
 but by every word that proceeds from your mouth.
 Give us a hunger for your Word,
 and in that food satisfy our daily need;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**^{UCA}
- 11 To your name, Lord Jesus,
 help me to bow the knee
 and all its worshiping,
 bow the head
 and all its thinking,
 bow the will
 and all its choosing,
 bow the heart
 and all its loving. **Amen.**
- 12 Eternal God,
we worship and adore you.
 You are the power within all things.
 Eternal God,
we worship and adore you.
 You are the wisdom beyond all minds.
 Eternal God,
we worship and adore you.
 You are the love revealed in the cross.
 Eternal God,
we worship and adore you. Amen.

Prayers for Choirs

- 1 Worship the Lord with gladness, *Ps. 100:2*
and enter God's presence with songs of joy.
 O God, the angels of heaven
 proclaim your glory without ceasing.
 Help us as we serve you in your house,
 that in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
 we may sing to you with our whole heart;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**^{BCO}
- 2 Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.
 Great God, you are generous and kind.
 Give us such wonder, love, and gratitude

that we may sing praises to you
and joyfully honor your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

- 3 O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Ps. 51:15

God of grace and God of glory,
help us to sing your praise gladly,
and to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for Elders and Other Worship Leaders

- 1 Ever-present God,
without your Word we have nothing to say;
without your Spirit we are helpless.
Give us your Holy Spirit,
that we may lead your people in prayer,
proclaim the good news,
and gratefully praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

- 2 Almighty God,
you have set a table before us,
and called us to feast with you.
Prepare us in mind and spirit
to minister in your name,
and to honor your Son, our Lord,
Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

- 3 Holy God,
as in Jesus Christ
you came to show us
the way, the truth, and the life,
guide our steps,
order our worship,
and direct our lives
so that we may worship and serve you
in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers with Children

- 1 Loving God,
you made this whole world
and you made us to live in it.
In Jesus, you even became a person like us
to show us the way back to you.
Help us to know Jesus today
as we sing and pray and listen;
through Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

- 2 Living God,
gather us into your house
to sing your praise today.
Jesus Christ,
teach us to follow you
and feed us at your table.
Holy Spirit,
send us from this place
with good news for everyone. **Amen.**

- 3 I praise you, O God—
in the sanctuary
and under the stars;
for your greatness
and for your goodness;
with loud hymns
and quiet prayers;
with helping hands
and dancing feet;
with all my breath
and with all creation;
I praise you, O God. **Amen.**

Service for the Lord's Day

The Service for the Lord's Day is a service of Word and Sacrament. Together, Word and Sacrament form a unified liturgy—proclaiming and celebrating the fullness of God's saving word and action in Jesus Christ.

If the Eucharist is omitted, the offering is followed by a prayer of thanksgiving (BCW 149–51) and the Lord's Prayer; the service then continues with the sending.

GATHERING

Instrumental music, congregational song, or contemplative silence may precede the service.

OPENING SENTENCES

All may stand as presider and people say one of the following, or another verse from scripture appropriate to the season or day (BCW 54, 157–400).

- 1 Our help is in the name of the Lord, Ps. 124:8
maker of heaven and earth.
- 2 This is the day that the Lord has made; Ps. 118:24
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- 3 Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 100:1–2
Worship the Lord with gladness.
Come into God's presence with singing!

The presider continues with this or another greeting (55):

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ 2 Thess. 3:18
be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us worship God.

HYMN, PSALM, OR SPIRITUAL SONG

GATHERING PRAYER

The presider may lead an opening prayer (BCW 55), such as the following, the prayer of the day (BCW 157–400), or a thanksgiving for Baptism (BCW 74). This prayer may be said from the baptismal font.

- 1 God of all glory,
 on this first day you began creation,
 bringing light out of darkness.
 On this first day you began your new creation,
 raising Jesus Christ from the darkness of death.
 On this Lord's Day grant that we,
 the people you create by water and the Spirit,
 may be joined with all your works
 in praising you for your great glory.
 Through Jesus Christ,
 in union with the Holy Spirit,
 we praise you now and forever. **Amen.**^{51W}
- 2 Almighty God,
 to whom all hearts are open,
 all desires known,
 and from whom no secrets are hid:
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 that we may perfectly love you
 and worthily magnify your holy name;
 through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Water may be poured into the baptismal font. The presider leads the call to confession (BCW 56–57).

- 1 The grace of God overflows for us 1 Tim. 1:14–15
 through Christ Jesus
 who came into the world to save sinners.
- 2 The proof of God's amazing love is this: Rom. 5:8;
 While we were sinners Christ died for us. Heb. 4:16
 Because we have faith in him,
 we dare to approach God with confidence.
- 3 If we say we have no sin, 1 John 1:8–9
 we deceive ourselves,
 and the truth is not in us.
 But when we confess our sins,
 God who is faithful and just
 will forgive us our sins
 and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The presider continues:

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Following silent personal examination, all pray together one of the following or another prayer of confession (BCW 57–62).

**1 Merciful God,
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 and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name.**

**2 Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.**

**By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

The Kyrie Eleison ("Lord, Have Mercy," GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) may be sung; alternatively, the Trisagion ("Holy God, Holy and Mighty," BCW 288) or Agnus Dei ("Lamb of God," GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) may be sung.

**Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.**

The presider may lift water from the font, declaring the good news of God's grace (BCW 62–63).

1 The mercy of the Lord Ps. 103:17
is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven! **Amen.** *or* **Thanks be to God.**

2 Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. 2 Cor. 5:17
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven
and be at peace. **Amen.** *or* **Thanks be to God.**

A song of praise, such as Gloria in Excelsis ("Glory to God," GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) or Gloria Patri ("Glory Be to the Father," GTG 551–609; PH 565–605), may be sung.

A summary of the law of God (BCW 63) or a call to faithfulness (BCW 67) may also be included here:

Hear the teaching of Christ: John 13:34
I give you a new commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

Worshippers may share signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love (BCW 67) here or after the prayers of intercession. The people are then seated.

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

The reader leads a prayer for illumination (BCW 68), such as the following.

Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy
what you say to us today. **Amen.**^{MBW}

The reader may then say these or similar words (BCW 70):

- 1 Hear the word of the Lord.
- 2 Hear what the Spirit Rev. 2:7
is saying to the church.

SCRIPTURE

Readings from the Old and New Testaments are normally included.

The Revised Common Lectionary (BCW 157–400) provides three readings and a psalm: (1) the first reading, from the Old Testament or

Acts (in Easter); the psalm or canticle, sung as a response to the first reading; (2) the second reading, from a New Testament epistle; and (3) the Gospel reading. It is particularly appropriate for a deacon or elder to read the Gospel from the midst of the congregation.

Before each reading, the reader may say these or similar words (BCW 70):

A reading from _____.

After each reading, the reader and people may say:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God. | 2 | Holy wisdom, holy word.
Thanks be to God. |
|---|---|---|---|

An anthem, a Gospel acclamation, or an alleluia (GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) may be sung before the reading of the Gospel. The people may stand.

The reading of the Gospel may be announced by saying:

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading of the Gospel, the following may be said:

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The people may be seated.

Silence for reflection may follow the readings from scripture.

SERMON

At the conclusion of the sermon, the preacher may speak the following or another ascription of praise (BCW 71–72).

Blessing and glory and wisdom Rev. 7:12
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! **Amen.**

Silence for reflection may follow.

An invitation to discipleship (BCW 72–73) may take place here, giving opportunity for any who wish to make a personal commitment to Christ, join the community of faith, or to live more fully into their baptismal calling.

Jesus said: Ask, and you will receive; *Matt. 7:7; Luke 11:9*
seek, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened to you.

If you are ready to respond to God's call,
to share in our worship and service,
and to follow Christ more faithfully,
we welcome you; God welcomes you.

HYMN, PSALM, OR SPIRITUAL SONG

All may stand. If Baptism or a pastoral rite of the church follows, candidates may come forward during the singing.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed (BCW 82) is particularly appropriate for the celebration of the Lord's Supper. When the Sacrament of Baptism is to be celebrated, however, the Apostles' Creed (BCW 85) is used within the baptismal liturgy. Other affirmations of faith (BCW 80) may be drawn from scripture or creeds and confessions of the church.

BAPTISM OR PASTORAL RITE

The Sacrament of Baptism (49) appropriately follows the proclamation of the Word. Pastoral rites associated with Baptism—reception of new members (74), reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant (81), ordination or installation (103), marriage (315)—also may take place here.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

It is particularly appropriate for a deacon or elder to lead the prayers of intercession (BCW 92) from the midst of the congregation or from the Lord's Table. Worshipers may respond with specific prayers, aloud or in silence, as bidden.

For the church, the world, and all in need,
let us pray to the Lord, saying:

After each petition, one of the following or another response (BCW 114) may be said:

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer. | 2 | God of grace,
hear our prayer. |
|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|

For your Church in every place,
that we may worship and serve you faithfully . . .

For leaders and people in every land,
that they may know your way and do your will . . .

For justice throughout the world,
that there may be peace and plenty for all . . .

For the earth you have made,
that it may flourish in beauty and show your glory . . .

For all those who hunger and thirst,
that they may be filled with good things . . .

For those who are ill or close to death,
that they may know your loving care . . .

Other special needs may be mentioned.

Those who have died are remembered with thanksgiving (BCW 115).

The leader concludes the intercessions with these or similar words (BCW 116).

Receive all these prayers, O God,
in the tenderness of your mighty hand,
and strengthen our hands to serve you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing the peace of Christ (BCW 117) is included here, if not earlier in the service.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 The peace of our Lord
Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.</p> | <p>2 The peace of Christ
be with you all.
And also with you.</p> |
|--|---|

The people may exchange signs of Christ's peace and reconciling love.

EUCCHARIST

OFFERING

One of the following, or another invitation to offering (BCW 118), may be said.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| <p>1 The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.</p> | <p><i>Ps. 24:1</i></p> |
| <p>2 Freely you have received, freely give.</p> | <p><i>Matt. 10:8</i></p> |

Then the leader says:

Let us return to God the offerings of our life
and the gifts of the earth.

As offerings are gathered, an anthem may be sung or other appropriate music may be offered. The presider and elders or deacons prepare the table. The people's offerings, which may include food for people who are hungry, are brought to the table. A song of praise may be sung.

As the offerings are presented, the following may be said:

Heaven and earth are yours, O Lord, 1 Chr. 29:11, 14
and of your own we give you.

An elder or deacon may then pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love;
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**^{ELW}

The norm of Christian worship is to celebrate the Lord's Supper on each Lord's Day. If the Lord's Supper is omitted, the service may include a prayer of thanksgiving (BCW 149–51), concluding with the Lord's Prayer (BCW 144). The service then continues at the closing hymn.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The presider may say these or similar words (BCW 119–20):

This is the joyful feast Luke 13:29; 24:30–31
of the people of God!
People will come from north and south
and from east and west
to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke,
when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples,
he took the bread,
blessed and broke it,
and gave it to them.
Then their eyes were opened,
and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's Table.
Our Savior invites those who trust him
to share the feast that he has prepared.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

All may stand for the Great Thanksgiving (BCW 121). The introductory dialogue may be sung (GTG 9) or spoken. With hands lifted, the presider says:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works.

You created the world and called it good

and made us in your image to live together in love.

You made a covenant with us,

and even when we turned from you,

you remained ever faithful.

The Sanctus ("Holy, Holy, Holy Lord") may be sung (GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) or spoken (BCW 141–42):

Therefore with all creation we sing 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.

The presider continues:

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.

He lived among us and told your story.

He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.

He shared our pain and died our death,

then rose to new life that we might live,

and all creation be restored.

The words of institution (BCW 142–43) are spoken here, if not elsewhere:

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,

on the night before he died, took bread,

and after giving thanks to you, he broke it,

and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying:
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

The presider continues:

Remembering your boundless love
revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
we break bread and share the cup,
giving ourselves to you
to live for him in joy and praise.

*The memorial acclamation may be sung (GTG 551–609; PH 565–605)
or spoken (BCW 143):*

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The presider continues:

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ
and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another
until we feast with him and with all your saints
in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Amen may be sung (GTG 551–609; PH 565–605) or spoken.

LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is sung (GTG 464; PH 571, 589–90) or spoken (23).

As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to 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.**

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The presider lifts and breaks the bread, saying words of scripture
(BCW 145):*

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. *John 6:35; 15:5*

*The presider pours and/or lifts the cup, saying words of scripture
(BCW 145):*

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never be hungry;
believe in me and never thirst.

Extending the bread and cup to the people, the presider says:

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

*During the communion of the people, hymns, psalms, and spiritual
songs may be sung (GTG 494–538; PH 500–521), or other appropriate
music may be offered.*

In giving the bread, the server says:

- | | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| 1 | The bread of heaven.
Amen. | 2 | The body of Christ,
given for you. Amen. |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|--|

In giving the cup, the server says:

- | | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|---|
| 1 | The cup of salvation.
Amen. | 2 | The blood of Christ,
given for you. Amen. |
|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|---|

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The presider leads one of the following or another prayer after Communion (BCW 146–49). Option 1 may be sung (GTG 535; PH 597).

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; Ps. 103:1–2
and all that is within me,
bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul;
and forget not all God’s benefits.

- 2 God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**^{ELW}

Deacons and/or elders may be commissioned to extend the celebration of the Lord’s Supper to those unable to gather with the worshiping community (367). The presider and people say:

We send you out with this bread and cup 1 Cor. 10:17
to share the feast of the risen Lord.
We who are many are one body,
for we all partake of the one bread.

Those commissioned for the extended serving of Communion depart immediately.

SENDING

If the Lord’s Supper is omitted, the service concludes with the sending.

Brief announcements related to the church’s mission may be mentioned here.

HYMN, PSALM, OR SPIRITUAL SONG

BLESSING AND CHARGE

The presider speaks God's blessing to the congregation, using one of the following, or another blessing (BCW 151–53).

- 1 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, 2 Cor. 13:13
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Alleluia! or Amen.**
- 2 The Lord bless you and keep you. Num. 6:24–26
The Lord be kind and gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace. **Alleluia! or Amen.**

A deacon or elder may share God's summons to service from the font, table, or door of the church, using one of the following, or another charge (BCW 154).

- 1 Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Amen. or Thanks be to God.
- 2 Go out into the world in peace;
have courage;
hold onto what is good;
return no one evil for evil;
support the weak;
help the suffering;
honor all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. or Thanks be to God.
- 3 Go in peace
and in the name of Christ,
remember the poor.
Amen. or Thanks be to God.

Instrumental music or congregational song may follow the charge.

Variations in the Order of Worship

Following are some alternative positions for various elements of the Service for the Lord's Day:

Procession If there is a procession of the choir, presider(s), and other leaders of worship during the first hymn, the hymn may precede the opening sentences.

The prayer of the day (BCW 157–400) may take place

1. following the opening sentences and before the first hymn;
2. following the first hymn, psalm, or spiritual song and before the confession and pardon (as in the above order);
3. at the conclusion of the prayers of intercession in place of one of the concluding collects.

A thanksgiving for Baptism (BCW 74) may be included

1. in place of the gathering prayer or prayer of the day;
2. on occasion, in place of the confession and pardon;
3. as a response to the proclamation of the Word.

Confession and pardon (BCW 56–57) may take place

1. as part of the gathering (as in the above order);
2. following the prayers of intercession and before the peace.

The confession and pardon are used only once in the service.

The peace (BCW 67, 117) may take place

1. following the confession and pardon and before the word;
2. following the prayers of intercession and before the offering (as in the above order);
3. following the Lord's Prayer and before the breaking of the bread.

The peace is used only once in the service.

A time with children may take place around the reading of the scriptures.

The affirmation of faith (BCW 80) may take place

1. following the sermon and before the hymn, psalm, or spiritual song;
2. following the hymn after the sermon and before the prayers of intercession (as in the above order).

A congregational song or anthem may serve as an affirmation of faith. When Baptism is celebrated, the affirmation of faith takes place within the baptismal liturgy, using the Apostles' Creed.

The prayers of intercession (BCW 92) may be included in the Great Thanksgiving following the invocation of the Spirit and before the concluding doxology.

The offering (BCW 118) may take place

1. after the prayers of intercession and before the Lord's Supper (as in the above order);
2. after the Lord's Supper and before the sending, in thanksgiving for receiving Christ in the sacrament.

The words of institution (BCW 119–20, 142–43, 145) are to be included in one of the following places in the order:

1. before the Great Thanksgiving as a warrant;
2. within the Great Thanksgiving (as in the above order), in thanksgiving to God for the gift of the sacrament;
3. as words to accompany the breaking of the bread.

The words of institution are used only once in the service.

Announcements: If announcements are made in worship, they should be brief, and appropriately placed in the order:

1. Words of welcome may be extended following the greeting at the beginning of the service and before the opening sentences.
2. Notices about needs or concerns for which prayer will be offered may be briefly stated immediately before the prayers of intercession.
3. Notices concerning the life and ministry of the church may be briefly stated immediately before the blessing and charge (as in the above order) at the end of the service.

Other announcements may be provided in a bulletin or newsletter and not mentioned as a part of worship.

The blessing and charge (BCW 151–53) may be ordered in one of two ways:

1. The charge may follow the blessing (as in the above order).
2. The blessing may follow the charge.

The blessing is spoken by the presider. The charge may be spoken by a deacon, an elder, or the presider.

Procession: If there is a procession of the choir, presider(s), and other leaders of worship during the final hymn, the hymn may follow the blessing and charge.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

See also common text (17) and musical settings (GTG 464; PH 571, 589–90).