



ORDER
of
WORSHIP

Lent

Nativity Church in
THE DIOCESE OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS
of the Episcopal Church

Welcome and Parish Life Announcements

Entering God's Presence *(Please stand as you are able)*

THE DECALOGUE BCP page 317

Celebrant: God spake these words, and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Honor thy father and thy mother.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt do no murder.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not commit adultery.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not steal.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not covet.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

PENITENTIAL ORDER BCP page 320

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

People: And blessed is His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: Seeing that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14, 16

Confession

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God.

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

Absolution

Celebrant: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all of our sins

People: His mercy endures forever.

Collect of Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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.

Trisagion Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal one,

All: Have mercy upon us

Hearing God's Word

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Collect of the Day *(Please be seated)*

A Reading from Old Testament

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Response

Psalm (let us read in unison)

The Epistle

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel *(please stand as you are able)*

Celebrant: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

Sermon *(Please be seated)*

Responding to God's Word (Please stand as you are able)

The Nicene Creed

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 Form IV BCP Page 388

(Please kneel as you are able)

Celebrant: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of Others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Silence

The Peace *(Please stand)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE OFFERTORY

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Great Thanksgiving

Prayer "D" BCP Page 372

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and forever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name as we sing:

People: 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...

All: We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All: 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 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, forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is Sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Post Communion Prayer

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People: Ordinary People empowered to live Extraordinary Lives!
Thanks be to God!**

THE
FORTY
DAYS
of LENT



RETURN
to the
LORD
YOUR
GOD

An Invitation To Observe A Holy Lent BCP p. 264

The first Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church to prepare for them by a season of penitence and fasting. This season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when those who, because of notorious sins, had been separated from the body of the faithful were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to the fellowship of the Church. Thereby, the whole congregation was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word. And, to make a right beginning of repentance, and as a mark of our mortal nature, let us now kneel before the Lord, our maker and redeemer.



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