The Eucharist on the Feast of Christ in Creation

The Gathering

At the entry of the ministers a hymn may be sung.

The president may say

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

The Lord be with you

All **and also with you.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayer of Preparation

This prayer may be said

All **Almighty God,**
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
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.

Prayers of Penitence

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it.

Let us confess our failure to receive with gratitude
God's gift of creation,
and repent of the ways in which we have caused it harm.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,**
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

Or

You laid the foundations of the earth,
but we have claimed your world as our own.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

All things were created through you and for you,
but we have not lived as those who belong to you.

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You make all things new, but our hope has grown dim.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The president says

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *may be said or sung in this or another form*

All **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

Holy and eternal God,
you are the Maker of heaven and earth,
you are the Word through whom all things were made,
and you are the Spirit, the giver of life:
draw us into the mystery of your love,
that with all creation we may proclaim your praise,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

ISAIAH 55:12-END

For you shall not go out in haste,
and you shall not go in flight;
for the LORD will go before you,
and the God of Israel will be your rearguard.

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.
Just as there were many who were astonished at him
– so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals –
so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because of him;
for that which had not been told them they shall see,
and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody

A hymn may be sung, or

PSALM 96

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name;
tell out his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
he is more to be feared than all gods.

For all the gods of the nations are but idols;
it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Honour and majesty are before him;
power and splendour are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;
bring offerings and come into his courts.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is king.
He has made the world so firm
that it cannot be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;

Let the fields be joyful and all that is in them;
let all the trees of the wood shout for joy
before the Lord.

For he comes, he comes to judge the earth;
with righteousness he will judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

New Testament Reading

COLOSSIANS 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

This acclamation may herald the Gospel reading.

Alleluia, alleluia.

You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things.

All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen hi glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

All **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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The following, or another of the forms in "A Time for Creation: Liturgical Resources for Creation and the Environment", or other suitable words may be used.

In peace let us pray to the Father, through the Son
and in the power of the Holy Spirit,
who make, sustain and renew all things.

Heavenly Father,
we pray for your Church throughout the world
that we may be faithful to our baptism.
With the dawn of each day,
may we be awakened to the beauty of the earth
and rejoice in the wonder and diversity of creation
in all its forms and colour.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of life,
as all living things depend on the good quality
of the air, the soil, and water,
may your wisdom guide us as we care for the environment.
Deliver us from selfishness and greed.
Help us to share the rich resources of this world gladly and justly,
in the cause of stability and peace between nations and peoples.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of mercy,
we bring before you areas affected by chronic shortage of water,
and pray for those suffering as a result of drought
or the lack of safe water to drink.
We pray for those suffering from the effects of extreme weather
and whose environment has been damaged
by cyclones, floods or destructive wildfires.
May we better understand the effects
of the changing patterns of weather on our planet.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of abundant life,
we give thanks for the rich harvest of the seas;
may we cherish the good things you have created
and be successful in reducing the pollution
in our oceans, rivers and lakes that life may flourish.
May your wisdom help us to maintain the biodiversity of our fragile planet.
Strengthen our resolve and bless the efforts of all
who seek to protect the marine, animal, insect and plant life
that are threatened with extinction.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of creation,
you have placed us on the earth to care for it,
and call us to be co-workers with Christ your Son.
Bless our farmers, those who work in our nature reserves and National Parks,
in our Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Sites of Scientific Interest.
and all who are custodians of our landscape.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Lord of the universe,
you have made us from the stuff of the earth,
and to earth we shall return.
May we tread lightly upon this earth
and succeed in the innovation and development
of sources of renewable energy and green technology.
By your grace, may we live our days wisely,
live sustainably,
and at the last come with all your saints
into paradise and enjoy creation made new.

Merciful Father,

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The president may introduce the Peace with a suitable sentence and then says

You shall go out in joy and be led back into peace;
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

A hymn may be sung.

The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

This prayers is said.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
by your goodness the world was formed and filled with plenty.
As we set before you this bread and wine,
teach us gratitude for your gifts
and make us faithful stewards of your creation.
Blessed be God for ever.

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The president says

The Lord be with you *or* The Lord is here

All **and also with you.** **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For by your word the heavens were made,
and all their host by the breath of your mouth.
You formed us in your image, the crown of your creation,
and entrusted us with the works of your hands.

In your great goodness you sent your Son,
the firstborn of all creation,
who holds all things together in himself,
and through whom you make all things new.

You have given us the first-fruits of the Spirit,
as creation itself waits with eager longing
to obtain the glorious freedom of the children of God.

And so, with angels and archangels
and with all that you have made,
we join the song of your glory,
forever praising you and *saying*:

SANCTUS [*and* BENEDICTUS] *are said or sung in this or another form*

All 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.]

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Christ is the bread of life:

All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [*N and*] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,**
because we all share in one bread.

AGNUS DEI *may be said or sung in this or another form as the bread is broken*

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

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

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

The president and people receive communion.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The Post Communion prayer is said.

God our Creator,
by your gift the tree of life was set
at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be
transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All may say

All **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

A hymn may be sung.

Act of Commitment for the Care of Creation

As the whole of creation looks with eager longing
for the redemption of humankind,
let us pledge ourselves anew to serve our Creator God,
the Father who is the maker of all things,
the Son through whom all things are made, and the Holy Spirit,
the giver of life, who renews the face of the earth.

Let us stand to affirm our commitment to care actively
for God's creation.

All **Lord of life and giver of hope,**
we pledge ourselves to care for creation,
to reduce our waste,
to live sustainably,
and to value the rich diversity of life.
May your wisdom guide us,
that life in all its forms may flourish,
and may be faithful in voicing creation's praise.

May the commitment we have made this day
be matched by our faithful living.

All **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Blessing

May God the Father,
whose glory is proclaimed in the heavens,
awaken in you a delight and wonder in this good creation.

All **Amen.**

May God the Son,
the Word made flesh,
through whom all things were made,
fill you with his risen life.

All **Amen.**

May God the Holy Spirit,
who hovered over the waters of creation
and formed the world from chaos,
form you in the likeness of Christ
and renew the face of the earth.

All **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**