Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people’s responses are in bold.

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a “rubric,” which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

Prelude from Symphony 1, Op. 14

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

INTROIT

Call to remembrance

Richard Farrant (ca. 1525-1580)

Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindness, which hath been ever of old, O remember not the sins and offenses of my youth: but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.

(Psalm 25:5-6)

At the ringing of the bells, the people stand as able as the procession enters in silence.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God’s mercy endures for ever.

THE INVITATION TO A HOLY LENT

Dear People of God: 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.

The people may kneel or be seated.
Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault 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. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. We confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

All our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, have mercy on us.

Accept our repentance, O Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, have mercy on us.

Accept our repentance, O Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.
Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,

Congregation

That we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,

Congregation

Bring us with your saints to the joy of resurrection.

KYRIE ELEISON

Cantor

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Cantor

Christe eleison. Christe eleison.

Cantor

Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Silence is kept.

The presider offers the declaration of forgiveness, and the people respond, Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

The Collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that “collects” or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The people are seated.
This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32:1-7

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity’s relationship with God and one another.

The choir introduces the refrain, then all repeat.

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!

All repeat the refrain.

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

All repeat the refrain.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

All repeat the refrain.
THE SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE • 150

Forty days and forty nights Sung by all. Aus der Tiefe rufe ich

The sequence hymn or Alleluia moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word—the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means “good news”—specifically the “good news of Jesus.”

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

This reading is taken from one of the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus’ words and actions.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After Jesus was baptized, he was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ’One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ’He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ’On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ’Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ’Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.
The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

**THE SERMON**

The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

The people stand as able.

**THE NICENE CREED**

The word “creed” comes from the Latin “credo” for “I believe.” First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

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. 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 PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*The people greet one another with a sign of God’s peace and are seated.*

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE OFFERTORY**

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

An offering is received to support the Cathedral’s ministry of sharing God’s love with the world. All are invited to make a gift to help keep the Cathedral strong—either as the plate is passed or texting the dollar amount you wish to give to (202) 856-9905.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.
The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

Sweet hour of prayer

Sung by all.

William B. Bradbury (1816-1868)

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum corda, meaning “Lift up your hearts.”

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:
SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Sung by all.

David Hurd (b. 1950)

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.

We recall God’s acts of salvation history. The presider says the “Words of Institution” that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ’s death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.
THE LORD’S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

Notre Père..., Padre nostro..., Vater unser...

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE FRACTION ANTHEM

The presider breaks the bread in silence.

Agnus Dei
Sung by all.

D. Hurd

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

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

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

THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The people are seated.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine from the chalice, guiding it gently to your lips; or you may dip the wafer into the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Respond to receiving Communion by saying “Amen.” If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

During the administration of Holy Communion, the laying on of hands and prayers for healing are offered in St. John’s Chapel. Please enter the chapel by the ramp or stairs to the right of the pulpit.
MILITARY RECOGNITION SUNDAY

During Communion and following the service, healing prayers and blessings for active duty military, veterans, and their families will be available in War Memorial Chapel. Please enter the chapel by the ramp to the right of the pulpit.

ANTHEM DURING THE COMMUNION

Salvator mundi

Thomas Tallis (ca. 1505-1585)

Sung in Latin. O Savior of the world, save us, who by thy cross and blood hast redeemed us, help us, we pray thee, O Lord our God.

The people stand as able.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior 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.

During the season of Lent, in place of a final blessing, the presider offers a Prayer over the People.

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Let us bow down before the Lord.

The people may kneel or bow as able.

The presider prays over the people, and the people respond, Amen.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING • 143

The glory of these forty days Sung by all.

Erhalt uns, Herr

THE DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Aus tiefer Not’ schrei ich zu dir, BWV 686

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Washington Ringing Society will ring the Cathedral bells following the service.

March’s Military Recognition Sunday is sponsored by Women in Military Service for America, represented by Denise Krepp, Coast Guard veteran.
Thank you for worshiping at Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

The work of the Cathedral in service to the city, the nation, and the world is made possible entirely through private support. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Visit cathedral.org to sign up for our weekly newsletter. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your presence with us today has been a blessing.

Gifts for Easter flowers may be sent to the Washington National Cathedral Altar Guild, 3101 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016. If you wish to give flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, you may also email flowers@cathedral.org. To be included in the Easter service leaflet, gifts must be received by March 12.


Flowers  In the mid-nave, the Lenten pedestals of branches are given in loving memory of Mary Ashley Scarborough. In accordance with the Cathedral practice of bare altars during the Lenten season, all flower endowments during Lent will be named in the leaflet and honored at Easter.
