

# Order of Worship

Prior to the service, the church bells are ringing.

## Greeting

*Pastor: Grace be with you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!*

*Introduction of the theme of this service.*

## Prayer

*Three times three strokes of the bell are heard, calling to prayer. The pastor then says a prayer for this service.*

## Songs

*Usually, the first two songs are children's songs, and the third is a hymn.*

## Baptism

*When a baptism takes place during the service, it is placed here.*

## Reading(s)

*One or two readings from Scripture. All stand for the readings. If you want to know the readings in advance, please contact the pastor before the service.*

*If there are two readings, we will sing a single verse between them. During this verse, we will remain standing.*

## The Apostles' Creed

*All stand for the Creed.*

*The Creed is introduced by the pastor with the following words: Let us profess the Christian faith.*

We renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways.

We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

*On special days, the Nicene Creed is used:*

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

### **Song**

*During this song, the children are invited to a special program. They will return before the Holy Communion.*

### **Reading**

*All stand for the reading.*

### **Sermon**

*If you need translation, please contact the pastor before the service.*

### **Doxology**

*The sermon concludes with a doxology:*

Praise be to the Father, who has made the world and us in that.

Praise be to the Son, who has delivered creation and us with that.

Praise be to the Holy Spirit, who gives life to everyone and everything and ... (this last bit depends on the theme of the sermon)

### **Song**

*During this song, we collect money for charity.*

### **Prayer of the Church**

*The pastor and a member of the congregation say a prayer for our world, our city, and our lives.*

### **Song**

### **Introduction of the Holy Communion**

*The pastor briefly introduces the Holy Communion and then says: Lift up your thanksgivings and praises to the Lord! Let us praise His name!*

The pastor and the congregation praises God with the following song:

*Pastor:*

We thank and praise You, Almighty and merciful God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

You created heaven and all its hosts, earth and everything upon it.  
You give us the breath of life  
every day You fill us with your goodness.  
Joining our voices with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth  
we sing Your praise:

*All sing:*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.  
(Reginald Heber 1823)

*Pastor:*

Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord!

*All:*

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

*Pastor (says):*

Our Lord and Saviour who rose from the dead to be lovingly and richly present in our midst.  
Grant us that we may receive Your body and blood in remembrance of You and as the  
affirmation of our belief in the forgiveness of sins. Cleanse us from our sins and let the hope of  
eternal life shine forth in our lives. Make our heart ever more loving and let us with all  
believers be united with You as You are one with the Father.

*Or*

Holy God and Father, we praise You that You have rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of Your beloved Son. With gratitude we recall His wonderous birth, His bitter suffering and death, His victorious resurrection and ascension and look forward to His glorious return. We beseech You: Send Your Holy Spirit upon us and to this meal Grant that we may faithfully receive the body and blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ and thereby take part in His perfect sacrifice that brings forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Let us through His love be ever more united with all believers and be one with Your people when You gather them in Your kingdom.

### The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. Amen.

## Words of Institution

*All stand, as the pastor says the Words of Institution.*

On the night in which He was betrayed, Our Lord Jesus Christ took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

## Communion

*All are invited to participate in the Holy Communion. To each participant, a member of the congregation delivers the bread, saying: This is the body of Christ.*

*The pastor then pours the wine, saying: This is the blood of Christ. To those, who do drink wine, the pastor says: The blood of Christ is shed for you as well.*

*After each group, the pastor says: Peace be with you!*

*After the last group, the pastor says:*

The crucified and risen Saviour,  
our Lord, Jesus Christ  
who has now given us His holy body and blood and thereby made satisfaction for all sin  
may He strengthen and uphold us in true faith unto eternal life.

## Closing prayer

*The pastor says a closing prayer.*

## The Benediction

*All stand and receive the Benediction:*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His face  
upon you and give you peace.  
Amen.

*After the Benediction, the pastor makes the sign of the cross.*

## Song

## Announcements

*A member of the church board or the pastor makes some announcements.*

*After the service, coffee and tea will be served.*