# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Introduction

*Before the service begins the church bells are rung three times,*

*the last time with nine ‘prayer strokes’, in three groups of three*

*on one bell.*

1. ORGAN PRELUDE
2. OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Lord, I have come into this your house to hear

what you would say to me, God the Father, my

Creator,

you, Lord Jesus, my Saviour,

you, good Holy Spirit, in life and death my Comforter.

Lord, open now my heart by your Holy Spirit,

for the sake of Jesus Christ,

so that I may learn from your word to repent of my

sins

and to believe in life and death in Jesus,

and every day to grow in holy life and living.

Hear me and grant this, O God, through Jesus

Christ. Amen.

*Or*

P: Let us pray:

Lord, I have come into your house to hear

What you would say to me.

Open now my heart by your Holy Spirit,

so that from your word I may learn to repent of my sins,

believe in Jesus Christ,

and every day be strengthened and kept in this

faith. Amen.

1. OPENING HYMN

*After the hymn (or after introductory greeting) the Kyrie*

(Lord, have mercy) and the Gloria (Glory to God in the highest)

may be read/sung.

1. INTRODUCTORY GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

1. INTRODUCTORY COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

*The pastor then reads or chants one of the collects of the day.*

C: Amen.

## Ministry of the word

1. READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT
2. HYMN
3. READING *from the New Testament, Epistle or Lesson*
4. THE CREED

We renounce the devil and all his works and all

his ways.

We believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of

Heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son,

our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pi-

late, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descend-

ded into hell. On the third day he rose again from

the dead, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right

hand of God, the Father almighty, whence he will

come again 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 eter-

nal life.

*Or*

I (we) believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen

and unseen.

And 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 salva-

tion he cam down from heaven; by the power of

The Holy spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,

and was made man. For our sake he was crucified

Under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was bu-

Ried. On the third day he rose again in accordance

With the scriptures; He ascended into heaven, and

sits 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.

I (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 worshipped and

glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

I (we) believe in one holy christian and apostolic

church. I (we) acknowledge one baptism for the

forgiveness of sins. I (we) look for the resurrection

of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

C: Amen.

1. HYMN
2. GOSPEL READING

P: this holy gospel is written by the evangelist ...

C: Gid be praised for his glad and joyful message.

*The gospel is then read by the pastor.*

1. SERMON

*The semon ends with praise:*

Praise and thanks and eternal glory be to you,

our God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

who was and is and shall be God, three in one,

most highly praised from the beginning, now and

forevermore. Amen.

*Or*

Glory to the Father, and to the son, and to the

Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now

and will be forever. Amen.

1. PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*The pastor may use his own words in the intercession or use the*

*Following prayer:*

O Lord God, comfort and strengthen all who

are in sickness or sorrow, whether they be

near or far. Be present with, and help all who suffer

anguish, and stand by us all in the hour of temptation.

Bless and keep your holy universal Church and us

within it. Bless and keep your holy sacraments, and

let your word work freely among us, so that your

kingdom may spread and grow with justice and

peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, and the light of

grace may shine on all who sit in darkness and the

shadow of death.

Protect our people and our country and all its

lawful authorities; bless and keep our King (name),

Queen (name) and all the royal family. Grant to

them and to us grace, peace and blessing, and after

a christian life eternal joy.

*After the intercession notices are read, followed by the grace:*

Let us greet one another with the apostles:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holly Spirit

be with all of us. Amen.

1. HYMN

## Communion

1. EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*The communion begins with one of the three following euchari-*

stic prayers:

a )

P: Dear friends in Christ. Our Lord Jesus himself

said, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to

me shall not hunger; and whoever believes in me

shall never thirst. ‘In his holy supper the crucified

and risen Saviour gives us himself, so that whoever

hungers and thirsts after righteousness will find

there the food and drink for eternal life. Therefore,

follow in obedient faith his invitation when he says,

‘Take, eat, drink this, all of you; do this for the re-

membrance of me’. Then you will be united with

him, so that on your journey upon earth you may

ever remember him and at last be gathered to-

gether with him in his kingdom. For this we now

pray from our hearts:

Risen Lord and Saviour,

you who are present among us

with all the richness of your love:

Grant that we receive your body and blood

in remembrance of you,

and in confirmation of our faith in the forgiveness

of sins.

Cleanse us from sin

and strengthen us in the hope of eternal life

Grant that we grow in love,

so that we grow in love,

so that we, with all the faithful, may be united in

you,

as you are one with the Father.

C: Amen.

*The Lord’s prayer and the introductory words follow.*

b )

P: Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

Let us praise his name.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God the Almighty,

Who was, and is, and is to come.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

O Lamb of God,

Upon the cross

Full ransom for our sinning

And our salvation winning

Your mercy show

To us below.

O Lamb of God,

Upon the cross

Full ransom for our sinning,

Of peace the true beginning,

Give of your love

Peace from above.

O Lamb of God,

Upon the cross

Full ransom for our sinning,

Our life with you beginning,

From death set free

Eternally.

*(Translation by Edward R. Phillips, 1994)*

P: Risen Lord and Saviour,

you who are present among us,

with all the richness of your love.

Grant that we receive your body and blood

in remembrance of you,

and in confirmation of our faith in the forgiveness

of sins.

Cleanse us from sin

and strengthen us,

that you may dwell in our hearts by faith.

Make us firm in the hope of eternal life.

Grant that we grow in love,

so that we, with all the faithful, may be untied in you,

as you are one with the Father.

C: Amen.

*The Lord’s prayer and the introductory words follow.*

c )

P: Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

Let us praise his name.

We give thank and praise to you, God, Father Al-

mighty,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

You created heaven and all its power,

The earth and all that is upon it.

You give us life and breath

and satisfy us daily with your fullness.

Therefore, together with your church

on earth and in heaven

and in tune with all angels,

we will sing praise to your glory:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

P: Risen Lord and Saviour,

You who are present among us

with all the richness of your love:

Grant that we receive your body and blood

in remembrance of you,

and in confirmation of our faith in the forgiveness of sins,

Cleanse us from sin and strengthen us

that you may dwell in our hearts by faith.

Make us firm in the hope of eternal life.

Grant that we grow in love, so that we grow in love,

so that we, with all the faithful, may be united in you

as you are one with the Father.

*Or*

Praise be to ypu, holy God and Father,

that you set us free from the power of darkness

and brought us into the kingdom of your beloved son.

We remember with thanksgiving

his bitter suffering and death,

his victorious resurrection and ascension,

and we look for his coming in glory.

We pray you:

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and this holy meal.

Grant that we receive in faith

the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

and so share in the fullness of his sacrifice

for the forgiveness of sins and for eternal life.

Through his love may we grow in unity with all believers

and be gathered into your church

When it is perfected in your kingdom.

C: Amen.

1. THE LORD’S PRAYER

P+C: 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 kindfom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

1. PREPARATION

P: In 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, give for you. Do this for the remembrance

Of me.’

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave tanks

and gave it for all to drink, saying: ‘Drink this all of

you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed

For you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often

as you drink it, for the remembrance of me.’

1. COMMUNION

*After the preparation the communicants go up to the altar and*

*kneel at the rail. The pastor gives the bread to each communi-*

*cant with the word:*

The body of Jesus Christ.

*The pastor gives the wine to each communicant with the words:*

The blood of Jesus Christ.

P: The crusifued and risen Saviour,

our Lord Jesus Christ,

has now bestowed upon you (us) his holy body and blood

which he gave for the remission of all your (our) sins.

May he strengthen and preserve you (us) in true

Faith unto eternal life.

Peace be with you.

## Dismissal

1. FINAL COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

*After communion:*

We thank you, Lord our God, almighty Father,

that in your mercy

you refresh us with your gracious gifts of life.

We pray that your gifts may benefit us

to strengthen our faith,

to confirm our hope,

and to give life to our love towards one another,

for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*Alternatively the following collect may be used:*

We thank you, Lord our God, almighty Father,

that you have strengthened us with your gra-

cious gifts of life.

We pray that you will fulfill what you have begun in us,

strengthen our faith,

confirm our hope,

and give life to our love towards one another,

through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one true God for ever and ever.

*After baptism and communion the following collect may be used:*

Lord our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for your infinite mercy,

that through your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

you have given us your word and your sacraments

for our consolation,

that we may there find forgiveness for our sins.

We pray that you give us your Holy Spirit,

so that we may believe your word with all our hearts,

and through baptism and communion be streng-

thened in faith

day by day until eternal life

through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the

Holy Spirit,

One true God, forever and ever.

Amen.

1. BLESSING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you, and

be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and

give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

1. CLOSING HYMN
2. CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Lord, I thank you with all my heart

that you have taught me what you want me to do.

Help me now, O God,

through your Holy Spirit for the sake of Jesus Christ,

that I may keep your word in a pure heart,

and so be strengthened in faith,

improved in holy living,

and comforted in life and death. Amen.

*Or*

Let us pray:

Lord, I thank you

that you have taught me what you want me to do.

Help me now, O God,

to keep you word firmly in mind

and by it be strengthened and comforteds in life and

death. Amen.

1. ORGAN POSTLUDE

# Baptism

*Baptism usually takes place in the church during a service. In*

*case of illness baptism can take place at home or in hospital.*

*Baptism during morning service may take the place of the creed,*

*take place after the first reading, after the hymn following the*

*sermon, or after communion.*

*If there is a special baptism service it may be introduced by an*

*organ prelude, an opening hymn and an address by the pastor*

*before the baptismal hymn.*

BAPTISMAL HYMN

*At a baptism during morning service the baptismal hymn can*

*be one of the normal morning hymns.*

P: Has the child been baptized at home? - No.

*At the baptism of adults the pastor ask:*

Have you been baptized before? - No.

PRAISE AND PRAYER

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

By his great mercy

he has given us a new birth into a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Let us pray:

We thank you, heavenly Father,

that through your only-begotten Son you

Have given us holy baptism

In which you make us your children

and give us the Holy Spirit, with the forgiveness of

Sins and eternal life.

We pray you,

Receive into your grace this child (these children)

whom we bring before you.

Make him/her/them a member (members) of your

Church.

Keep him/her/them in your fellowship on earth

and in heaven.

Amen.

*At the baptism of adults:*

We pray you to receive him/her graciously

who today comes to the christian baptism.

Make him/her a member of your church.

Keep him/her in your fellowship on earth and in

heaven.   
Amen.

READINGS

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ says,

All authority in heaven and on earth has been

given to me. Go therefore and make disciples

of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the

Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and

Teaching them to obey everything that I have com-

manded you. And remember, I am with you always,

to the end of the age.

The evangelist Mark writes,

People were bringing little children to Jesus in

Order that he might touch them; and the disci-

ples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this,

he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little

children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to

such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the king-

dom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ And

he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on

them, and blessed them.

Let us therefore help this child (these children)

to receive his blessing

by baptizing him/her/them

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Spirit.

*At the baptism of adults:*

So we will now help you to receive his blessing

by baptizing you

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Spirit.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

*If there are several children, each child is carried to the front separately.*

*The pastor makes the sign of the Cross before the face and breast of the candidate and says:*

Receive the sign of the Holy Cross

upon your brow and upon your heart

as witness that you belong to

the crucified Lord Jesus Christ.

What is the child’s name? - N.

*At the baptism of adults this question is usually omitted.*

THE CREED

N., do you renounce the devil and all his works and

all his ways? - I do.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator

of heaven and earth? - I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten 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, descended

into hell, rose again of the third day, ascended

Into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the

Father almighty, whence he will come again to judge

the living and the dead? - I do.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy christian

Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness

of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the eternal life? - I do

Will you be baptized into this faith? - I will.

BAPTISM

*The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate and says:*

N., I baptize you

in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The pastor lays his hand on the head of the candidate and says:*

The almighty God, Fathe of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who has now borne you again by water and the Holy Spirit

and has given you the remission of sin,

may he strengthen you with his grace until eternal life.

He preserve your going out and your coming in

now and forever more. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

*During the Lord’s prayer the pastor lays his hand on the head of the baptized person.*

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.

Peace be with you.

ADDRESS TO THE GODPARENTS

*The congregation sits down. The pastor says to the child’s (children’s) godparents*

*and parents:*

You godparents of this child (these children) can now

witness that he/she/they is/are baptized in the name

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

And you should know what you owe to the child (children)

whose godparents you are. If the parents should die before

the child comes of age, you must see to it, as far as it is in your power,

that the child is brought up in christian teaching, in order that

he/she may remain in Christ, as he/she has now been

grafted unto him through baptism.

Peace be with you.

*Or*

Parents and godparents of this child (these children),

you are now witnesses that he/she/they is/are baptized in the

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

Parents, you must bring up your child in the christian faith and pray

for him/her that he/she may remain in Christ, even as he/she has

been grafted unto him through batism. And should the parents die

before the child comes of age, then you, the godparents, as far as

it is in your power, must see that he/she is brought up in

the christian faith.

Peace be with you.

*The pastor is free to use his own words but may use on of the above addresses as a guide to what should be said.*

At the baptism of adults the pastor ends with a short address to the sponsors.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

*After the baptism a hymn is sung. When baptism takes place at the normal morning service the hymn may be one of those normally used at the service, which proceeds as usual.*

(BAPTISM COLLECT)

*At service without communion and at special baptism services the following baptismal collect is used to end the service:*

Let us pary:

Lord our God, our heavenly Father,

we thank you with all our hearts that you

have brought us to your gracious baptism

in which you give us the forgiveness of sins,

the Holy Spirit and eternal life,

for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ.

We pray you:

Keep us in faith,

that we may never doubt this gift of yours,

and strengthen us through your Holy Spirit

to fight against sin and to remain in the grace of

our baptism, until we are forever blessed,

through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy Spirit,

one true God forever and ever.

C: Amen.

*When there is a special service for baptism, it ends with the blessing, a hymn and a organ postlude.*

# Marriage

*Marriage in church is solemnised by a pastor in the presence of at least two witnesses. Bells may be rung or chimed before the service in accordance with local custom.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

FIRST HYMN

ITRODUCTORY GREETING

P: The Lord be with you

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

*These words may be omitted, or the pastor may say:*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER AND READING

P: Let us pray:

Lord our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for the gift of life,

and for all who have shown us love

from our childhood until this day.

We pray you:

Give us always what we need

and daily renew our love to one another,

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the

Holy Spirit,

one true God forever and ever. Amen

P: it is written,

When God had created heaven and earth, the

sea, the sun, the moon and the stars, all

plants and animals, he said, ‘Let us make humankind

in our image, according to our likeness. Let them

have dominion over the fish of the sea, and

over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and

over all wild animals of the earth, and over every

creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. ‘So God

created humankind in his image; in the image of

God he created them; male and female he created them.

And Good blessed them

And our Lord Jesus Christ says,

Haven’t you read that the one who made them

at the beginning made them male and female,

and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his

father and mother and be joined to his wife, and

the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer

two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has

joined together, let no one separate.

And the apostle Paul writes,

Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will

fulfill the law of Christ. As God’s chosen ones,

holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion,

kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and, if one has a complaint

against the other, forgive each other; just as the

Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds

everything together in perfect harmony.

HYMN

*The bride and bridegroom go up to the altar, or they may wait*

*til after the address.*

ADDRESS

INTERROGATION AND DECLARATION

P: I now ask you, N. (*the bridegroom’s name),*

will you take N. (*the brides’s name)*, standing by

your side, to be your wife? - I will.

Will you love and honour her,

and live with her in prosperity and adversity

in what fortune God, the Almighty, will send you,

as a husband should live with his wedded wife,

Until death parts you? - I will.

Likewise I ask you, N. (*the bride’s name*),

will you take N. (*the bridegroom’s name*),

standing by your side, to be your husband? - I will.

Will you love and honour him,

and live with him in prosperity and adversity,

in what fortune God, the Almighty, will send you,

as a wife should live with her wedded husband,

Until death parts you? - I will.

Then join your hands together.

*The pastor lays his hand on their hands and says,*

Since you have promised one another that you

will live together in marriage and have now

Confirmed this before God, and before us who are

present, I declare you to be man and wife before

God and all mankind.

*At this point the bride and bridegroom mat exchange rings.*

INTERCESSION

P: Let us pray:

*While the bride and bridegroom kneel, the pastor lays his hand on their heads and says:*  Almighty God,

who created man and woman

that they may live together in holy matrimony

and blessed them. We ask you, bless the man and this woman,

let them always live in your grace

And in love for each other.

*Or*

Dear heavenly Father,

grant this man and this woman

grace, happiness and blessing

In soul and body.

Grant that they may love on another with faithful love

and serve you sincerely in all things,

that they may live as your dear children

And finally be gathered unto you in the eternal

mansions.

Hear us in the name of Jesus.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,

on earth as it is 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.

Peace be with you.

*If the marriage ends with the following hymn the pastor blesses the couple instead of saying, Peace be with you. The bride and bridegroom sit down.*

HYMN

FINAL COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

Lord our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for the ordinance of marriage,

And we pray you that you will keep it strong among

us with your blessing.

Grant that through the Holy Spirit all christian

married couples may help one another to remain in your saving grace.

Make them joyful in hope, patient in adversity

and persevering in prayer, and strengthen them to become

living members of your church, that they may finally be

united with you in your kingdom, where you live and reign with

your Son and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever.

*Or*

Lord, our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for the ordinance of marriage,

and we pray you:

Be graciously present with those who have this day

Entered into holy matrimony.

Bless them, that may be godfearing and live with one

another in love,

and give no cause for anger or stife.

In the face of temptation, may they always experience

the help of your grace.

Grant to them, and to all of us, to live our lives here

on earth in faith and obedience, and finally to

live in eternal blessedness, through your beloved Son,

Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one true God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

*These words may be omitted or used before the final collect.*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,

and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and

Give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

FINAL HYMN

ORGAN POSTLUDE

# Church blessing of civil marriage

*Bells may be rung or chimed before the service in accordance with local custom.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

FIRST HYMN

INTRODUCTORY GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

*These words may be omitted, or the pastor may say:*

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

The love of God, and the fellowship

of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

INTRODUCTORY PRAYER AND READING

P: let us pray:

Lord our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for the gift of life,

and for all who have shown us love

from our childhood until this day.

We pray you:

Give us always what we need and

daily renew our love to one another,

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity

of the Holy Spirit,

one true God forever and ever. Amen.

P: it is written,

When God had created heaven and earth, the sea,

the sun, the moon and the stars, all plants and animals,

he said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according

to our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,

and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all

wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon

the earth. ‘So God created humankind in his image; in the image of

God he created them; male and female he created them.

And God blessed them.

And our Lord Jesus Christ says,

Haven’t you read that the one who made them at the

beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘For this reason

a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and

the two shall become one flesh’? So they are no longer

two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined

together, let no one separate.

And the apostle Paul writes,

Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will

Fulfill the law of Christ. As God’s chosen ones, holy

and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,

humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another

and, if one has a complaint against the other, forgive each other;

just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds

everything together in perfect harmony.

HYMN

*The bride and bridegroom go up to the altar, or they may wait till after the address.*

ADDRESS

INTERROGATION AND DECLARATION (*can be omitted*).

P: N. and N., you are lawfully joined together in marriage and

have come today to obtain God’s blessing of your marriage.

I therefore ask you, N. (*bridegroom’s name*),

will you love and honour N. (*bride’s name*) and live with

her in prosperity and adversity in what fortune God, the

Almighty, will send you, as a husband should live with his wedded

wife until death parts you? - I will

Likewise I ask you, N. (*bride’s name*),

will you love and honour N. (*bridegroom’s name*)

and live with him in prosperity and adversity in what

fortune God, the Almighty, will send you, as a wife should

live with her wedded husband until death parts you? - I will.

INTERCESSION

P: Unless the Lord builds the house the work of the builders is in

vain. Therefore we will now ask God for the blessing of this man

And this woman.

*While the bride and bridegroom kneel, the pastor lays his hands on their heads and says:*

Almighty God, who created man and woman that they

may live together in holy matrimony and blessed them.

We ask you, bless also this man and this woman, let

them always live in your grace and in love for each other.

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.

Peace be with you.

*The bride and bridegroom sit down.*

HYMN

FINAL COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

Lord our God, heavenly Father,

we thank you for the ordinance of marriage,

and we pray you that you will keep it strong among

us with your blessing.

Grant that through the Holy Spirit all christian married

couples may help one another to remain in your saving grace.

Make them joyful in hope, patient in adversity and persevering

in prayer, and strengthen them to become living members of

your church, that they may finally be united with you in your

kingdom, where you live and reign with your Son

and the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever.

*Or*

Lord, our God, heavenly Father, we thank you for the

ordinance of marriage, and we pray you:

Be graciously present with this man and this woman.

Bless them, that they may be godfearing and live

with one another in love, and give no cause for anger

or strife. In the face of temptation, may they always experience

the help of your grace. Grant to them, and to all of us,

to live our lives here on earth in faith and obedience,

and finally to live in eternal blessedness, through your beloved

Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with

you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one true God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

*These words may be omitted or used before the final collect.*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be

gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and

give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

FINAL HYMN

ORGAN POSTLUDE

# FUNERAL

*Two rituals for funeral follow, a long and a short one. Either may be used at burials or at cremations. They are only intended as a guide to the order of service, but the order of the service of commital is always the same. At a burial the service ends with casting earth on the grave in the cemetery. In the case of cremation the earth is cast on the coffin in the church or chapel.*

## Longer version

*Guide to the order of service*

ORGAN PRELUDE

HYMN

GREETING

P: Grace to you

and peace from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Or*

P: The Lord be with you

C: And with your spirit. *Or* And also with you.

INTRODUCTORY COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

Almighty, eternal God,

Father of mercy and God of all compassion,

hear us who call upon you

in sorrow and bereavement

and grant us consolation and strength in our need,

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Or*

Almighty, eternal God, heavenly Father,

we thank you that you so loved the world,

that you gave your only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him may nor perish,

but may have eternal life.

We pray you to comfort and strengthen us

all in our sorrow, and keep us in living

faith in your only-begotten Son,

that, with all whom you have saved, we may

finally come home to you and praise and

honour you forever through your beloved Son,

our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*Or*

Merciful Father,

we thank you for the life you have given us

with its joys and sorrow; we thank you that

we know that all things may work for good

for those who love you.

Keep us now in our sorrow firmly with you;

remind us that through the death and resurrection of your

Son, you have borne all our sorrows

and renewed us to a living hope.

Help us never to forget that in our baptism you

have made us yours and have promised us

The forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

In this faith we thank you for all good gifts

which you have given us through the

life of him/her who has now passed away,

and we commit his/her body and soul into

your hands asking you to keep him/her for

a joyful resurrection on the last day.

Send us your help that our sense of loss may

be eased, and strengthen us in the hope of your

coming kingdom, into which you lead all your

children home to yourself, to praise

and honour you forever. Amen.

*Or*

Our Creator and Father in heaven, you see

all our sorrows; this we know from your

beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,

who shared life and death with us here

so that we might share his life with you forever.

We now pray you:

Give us your Holy Spirit, grant us love from

your own love, sorrow from your sorrow,

life from your life that we take courage

and believe the word of your Son,

to cast away all fear and live joyfully with

one another on earth, until you make us

Forever glad in your light, you who lives

and reigns with the Son in the unity of

the Holy Spirit, one true God,

forever and ever. Amen.

READING(S)

*The pastor continues with one or two readings from the Old or/and the New Testament.*

THE CREED

WE renounce the devil and all his works and all

his ways.

We believe in God, the Father almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten

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 into hell. On the third day he rose

again from the dead, ascended into heaven, and

sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,

whence he will come again 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 eternal life. Amen.

HYMN

*May be omitted or there may be a hymn between two readings instead.*

SERMON

*If two readings are desired, the second one should be read immediately before the sermon.*

HYMN

COMMITTAL (*in church or chapel*)

*When the committal takes place in church or chapel, it should take place after the hymn following the sermon.*

*The committal must be carried out in accordance with the prescribed form.*

FINAL COLLECT

P: Let us pray:

Lord God, our heavenly Father,

we thank you with all our hearts

that you have granted us to live in this

blessed time when we can hear your holy

gospel, know your divine and fatherly will,

and see your Son, Jesus Christ.

We pray you in your abundant mercy,

graciously keep the holy light of your word among us.

Lead and guide our hearts by your

Holy Spirit, that we may never swerve from

your word, but firmly remain in it so that

we would rather leave behind all else,

and at last obtain eternal life, through your

Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord who lives and

reigns with you in the unity of the

Holy Spirit, one true God, Forever and ever. Amen.

*Or*

Our God and Father in heaven,

we thank you for receiving our Lord

Jesus Christ into your kingdom when he

gave his life to save the world.

We pray you:

Receive also us who are baptized unto his death.

May we not be lost in fear and anger

on this day of sorrow, but let us live according to

the will of the Lord, full of hope in his faith,

until we are forever blessed, through your

crucified and risen Son, Jesus Christ, our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the

unity of the Holy Spirit, one true God,

forever and ever. Amen.

*Or*

Loving, righteous God, helper of the helpless,

saviour of lost souls, judge of the blessed,

give us, we pray, your Holy Spirit.

Keep our hope alive so that we do not despair

in times of misfortune; keep our faith alive so that

we are not lost for you; keep our love alive

So that we are not lost for each other in our

sorrow, but live as best we can until you gather

us to yourself in the new heaven on the new earth

born again through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you,

and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

and give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN

ORGAN POSTLUDE

COMMITAL (*in the cemetry*)

*The committal takes place in accordance with the prescribed form.*

*A short closing hymn.*

## Shorter version

*Guide to the order of service*

HYMN

GREETING

P: Grace to you and peace from God

our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

READING

*The pastor continues with one of the readings from the longer version. The reading may be omitted if the creed is said.*

THE CREED

We renounce the devil and all his works and all

his way.

We believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of

heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten 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 into hell.

On the third day he rose again from the dead, ascended

into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the

Father almighty, whence he will come again 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

eternal life.

SERMON

*A short sermon follows.*

*Instead of the sermon or at the end of the sermon, one of the following prayers may be used:*

Our Father in heaven, we thank you for your

love and faithfulness through your Son,

Jesus Christ, for all the gifts of this life,

for our loved ones and for all you have given

us through him/her, whom we have now lost.

We ask you to take him/her in your hands,

comfort us in our sorrow, judge us mercifully

at our end, and give us a glorious resurrection

for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Or

Our Father in heaven, we thank you for every good

gift in this life and for the hope of eternal life

into which we have been reborn through the

resurrection of Jesus.

Be merciful to him/her, who has now left

us and, for the sake of Jesus, be a merciful judge

of us all.

Confirm us in faith, so that with all those you

have saved, we may honour and praise you

through all eternity. Amen.

*(Alternatively one of the collects from the longer version may be used.)*

HYMN

COMMITTAL (*in church or chapel*)

*When the committal takes place in church or chapel, it should take place after the hymn following the sermon in which case the service finishes with a hymn or postlude.*

*The commmittal takes place in accordance with the prescribed form.*

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord makes his face shine upon you, and be

gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Or*

Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN

ORGAN POSTLUDE

COMMITTAL (*in the cemetry*)

*The committal takes place in accordance with the prescribed form.*

*A short closing hymn.*

# Committal

*The pastor begins with the acclamation:*

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ.

By his great mercy he has given us a new

birth into a living hope through the resurrection

of Jesus Christ form the dead.

*The pastor throws earth on the coffin three times with the words:*

N. From dust you have come.

From dust you shall return.

From dust you shall rise again

Let us 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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you,

And be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,

and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*If the Aronitic blessing has been used previously, the apostolic blessing may be used instead:*

P: The grave of the Lord Jesus Christ,

the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit

be with all of us. Amen.