

St. John the Baptist, Old Malden



Liturgy for Creationtide

The Eucharist

The Gathering

We gather in the name of the Triune God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all the Earth
and all its creatures! Praise be to the Holy Trinity!
God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe,
Source of all life, whom the angels sing;
wondrous Light of all mysteries
known or unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Prayer of Preparation

**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.**

Invitation to Confession

God's whole creation groans, oppressed and abused
at the hands of humankind.
The land produces thorns and thistles
and longs to be set free.
Our sin affects all around us and disfigures all things.
Let us therefore confess our sins in penitence and faith.

The Confession

You delight in creation, its colour and diversity;
yet we have misused the earth
and plundered its resources for our own selfish ends.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You have brought order out of chaos,
light in darkness, good out of evil,
but we have preferred darkness
in words and deeds which dishonour God's holy name.
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You have showered us with blessings,
but we have been grudging towards others
and lacking in generosity in word and deed.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Absolution

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Gloria

**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.**

Collect

Old Testament Reading

For the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel Reading concludes with:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith *from the Iona Community*

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of humankind in all our diversity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.**

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

**He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit,
life-giving breath of the Church,
who renews the face of the earth,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

The Intercessions

The Peace

You shall go out in joy, and be led back in 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
and also with you.

Offertory Prayer

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.
Blessed be God for ever

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For you have created the heavens and the earth,
and formed us in your own image.
In the fullness of time you sent forth your Son,
your eternal Word,
who laid down his life for our salvation
and rose from the grave,
the first-fruits of your new creation.

You send forth your holy and life-giving Spirit
to give life to our mortal bodies
and to renew the face of the earth.
Therefore with all the heavenly hosts,
we give voice to everything that you have made,
and sing the eternal hymn of praise.

**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.**

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own.
When they turned away and rebelled
your love remained steadfast.
From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary,
to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied.

He offered his life for sinners,
and with a love stronger than death
he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he gave you thanks.
He broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, 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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Christ is the bread of life:

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

Father, we plead with confidence
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross;
we remember his dying and rising in glory,
and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand.

Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you
these gifts of your creation;
may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence,
form us in the likeness of Christ,
and build us into a living temple to your glory.

Remember, Lord, your Church in every land.
Reveal her unity, guard her faith,
and preserve her in peace and bring us at the last
with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, and all the
saints to the vision of that eternal splendour
for which you have created us;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
by whom, with whom, and in whom,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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 for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

The Agnus Dei

**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.**

Behold the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Prayer after Communion

The Blessing

May God the Holy Spirit,
who hovered over the waters of creation
and formed the world from chaos,
form us in the likeness of Christ
and renew the face of the earth
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Tend the earth, care for God's good creation,
and bring forth the fruits of righteousness.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.