



# A CREATION EUCHARIST

AS AUTHORISED BY

THE INCLUSIVE SACRAMENTAL  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN INDEPENDENT ORDER

OF

THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH  
OF ANTIOCH

with deepest respect and thanks to all those who have paved the way in the preparation  
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A CREATION EUCHARIST is a meeting of the classical form of the Eucharistic liturgy and a liturgy inspired by modern creation-centred mysticism. The celebration should combine tradition with simplicity. The rite is intended to be meditative, a slow, deliberate celebration, with a number of pauses for reflection and meditation and these will help all to attune to the deeper meaning of the words.

So ... let's all join in ...

# A CREATION EUCHARIST

*The people gather in a circle, or semi-circle, around the altar.*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Priest: Please join us in our Processional Hymn

Priest: Let us remember that this work is not for ourselves alone, but for all the world.

## INVOCATION

*The priest makes the sign of the cross, and says:*

Priest: We gather in the name of our ✠ God, ever creating, ever sustaining, embodied in our world through Christ whose cosmic spirit transforms creation.

*People: Amen.*

## PURIFICATION

*Holy water is sprinkled, at the words . . . Purify this place . . .*

Priest: Our minds are still, emptied of all thoughts of self, in surrender to the transforming action of the Divine. May the infinite strength of Christ set us free from the bonds of selfishness, making here an altar on which to offer the world.

Purify this place, O God; and make of us one body, growing into the fullness of Christ; a temple of living stones, through which infinite life may flow. Let the angels join us in this work of transforming the earth.

## Let's all say the CONFITEOR

*All: Fountain of all life and goodness ... you formed us in your own image giving the whole world into our care that we may guide and serve the earth and all its creatures. However, sadly, we forget the glory of our heritage ... and we turn against you ... and against each other. Forgive us all our shortcomings and restore in us the perfection of your image and the abundance of your love that we may labour anew for the fulfilment of creation.*

## ABSOLUTION

**Priest:** God the Father, God the ☩ Son, and God the Holy Spirit ... absolve, transform and uplift us all.

*People: Amen.*

## GLORIFICATION

*The priest joins the hands.*

**Priest:** Glory to you, Divine Spirit, for the wonder of the world, for the brightness and the warmth of the sun, for the silver moon, for the ever-changing sky, for the shifting clouds, and the splendour of sunrise and sunset;

*All: Glory to you for the earth, the sustainer of all that lives, for the beauty of hills, plains and valleys, and for our bushland, for flowers and trees, gardens and forests, animals and birds, and all the myriad forms of life;*

**Priest:** Glory to you for water, for the rain that refreshes the earth, for rushing torrents and slow-moving streams, and the beaches which surround our land, for the sea, beautiful in its stillness and powerful in its storm;

*All: Glory to you for inventors and scientists, for singers, musicians and poets, and for all who work in form and colour to increase the beauty of this world;*

**Priest:** Glory to you for the courage of heroes, the inspiration of your saints, and the example of noble deeds.

*All: Spirit of Life, within all things, reveal to us the splendour of creation, so that, through temporal beauty, we may know the beauty which is eternal.*

*All: Amen.*

## The Prayers and Collects of the Day

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*All: God of Creation, 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 magnify your Holy name; Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## The Collects of the Day are now read

### Prayer for peace and oneness – St Francis of Assisi

*All:* Lord, make us instruments of your peace  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
Where there is sadness, joy.

Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console.  
To be understood, as to understand.  
To be loved, as to love.  
For it is in giving that we receive.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life. Amen

### Prayer of St. Theresa of Liseux

*All:* May today there be peace within each one of us.  
May we trust our highest power that we are exactly  
where we are meant to be.  
May we not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.  
May we use those gifts that we have received, and pass on  
the love that has been given to us . . .  
May we be content knowing we are children of God . . .  
Let this presence settle into our bones, and allow our souls  
the freedom to sing, to dance, to praise and to love.  
It is there for each and every one of us. Amen.

### Prayer for Peace and Oneness

*All:* Teach us, O God, to see your life in all the peoples of the world, and so guide the nations into the knowledge and understanding of your laws, that peace and goodwill may reign upon earth; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE EPISTLE

*All:* Spirit of God, alone the source of all beauty, all goodness, all truth, without whose inspiration nothing is real, nothing endures, so enlighten us that we may hear the truth, and live the truth.

*Reader:* The first reading is from . . . (*any suitable source*)

*At the end of the reading the reader may say: For this reading . . .*

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## MUNDA COR MEUM

**Gospeller:** Cleanse my heart and my lips, O GOD, who by the hand of your Seraph did cleanse the lips of the prophet Isaiah with a burning coal from your Altar, and in your loving kindness so purify me that I may worthily proclaim your holy gospel.

Through CHRIST our LORD.

**All:** Amen.

**Celebrant:** *direct hand at heart and lips as appropriate:*

**Priest:** MAY the LORD be in your (my) ✠ heart and on your (my) ✠ lips, that through your (my) heart the love of GOD may shine forth, and through your (my) lips His power be made manifest.

**All:** Amen.

## THE GOSPEL

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

**All:** And also with you.

**Reader:** This is the Gospel according to . . .

**All:** ✠ Glory be to you, O Christ

The reader concludes with *For the Gospel of the Lord*

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

## THE HOMILY or SERMON

*Announcements and a homily or sermon [with sharing of ideas] may take place here, concluding with the Priest saying: Let us resume our service with the*

## STATEMENT OF BELIEF

**All:** We believe that God is Love and Power and Truth and Light; that perfect justice rules the world; that all shall one day reach God's Feet, however far they stray. We hold the Fatherhood of God, the unity of all that lives; we know that we do serve God best, in service freely given.

So shall God's ✠ blessing rest on us and peace for evermore. Amen.

### or The Second Statement of Belief

**All:** We believe in God the Father, source of all things visible and invisible.  
We believe in Christ the Lord of love and compassion, teacher alike of the Angels and of the peoples of this earth.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life.  
And we believe these three are truly one God.

We believe in the invisible kingdom of the Angels, who live to do the will of God in all things.

We believe that we all are the children of God, and that through God's law of good, which rules the world, we all shall one-day stand before God face to face.

So shall God's ☩ blessing rest upon us and peace evermore. Amen

### or The Third Statement of Belief

**All:** We believe in God the Undivided Unity, embracing all in oneness: we believe in the Holy and all-glorious Trinity, who pervades the whole universe, who dwells also in the human spirit:

We believe in Christ, the Lord of love and wisdom, first among all, who leads us to the glory of the Father, who is himself the way, the truth and the life:

We believe in the law of good which rules the world and by which one day all God's children shall reach the feet of the Father, however far they stray.

We strive towards the ancient narrow path that leads to life eternal.

We know that we do serve our Master best when best we serve each other, so shall God's ☩ blessing rest on us and peace for ever more. Amen.

## THE OFFERINGS

**Please join us in our Offertory Hymn**

*At the words: 'on this paten', the bread on the paten is offered. At 'their work' the bread is placed on the corporal, and the paten is covered by the purificator. After the wine is poured into the chalice . . . at 'According to . . .' the water is blessed' and a drop of water is added.*

**Priest:** On this paten, O Christ, with this bread, we place all the creative action of the peoples of the earth, their aspirations, their joy, their achievements, their work;

**According to ancient custom, we now mix water with this wine. Into our chalice, with this wine, we pour the sorrows, the pain, and the suffering of all your creation;**

# CENSING

**Priest:** Be Thou blessed ✕ by Him in Whose honour thou shalt be burned.

*At centre, slight bow, cense oblations with three + above and three clockwise O around, saying:*



**I link these oblations with me, ✕ Spirit, ✕ Soul, and ✕ bodies, and I shield them in the Name of the O FATHER, and of the O SON, and of the O HOLY SPIRIT.**

***Genuflect or bow:***

**To GOD the FATHER, I ✕ dedicate: Spirit, Soul & Bodies.**

**To GOD the SON, I ✕ dedicate: Spirit, Soul & Bodies.**

**To GOD the HOLY SPIRIT, I ✕ dedicate: Spirit, Soul & Bodies.**

**We worship Him for His Love, and for His Service I will unfold within myself STRENGTH, HARMONY, KNOWLEDGE.**

**May the Holy Archangel Michael and all the Hosts of Heaven make a sure shield for His grace.**

**We worship Him for His Love, and in His Service, I will unfold within myself ORDER, ADAPTABILITY, DEVOTION.**

**May the Holy Lady Mary and all the Saints of heavens make a sure shield for His grace.**

**Priest:** As this incense rises before Thee, O LORD, so let our prayer be set forth in Thy sight. Let thy holy Angels encompass Thy people and breathe forth upon them the spirit of Thy blessing.

***Face south, relinquish censer, saying:***

**Priest:** MAY the LORD enkindle within us the fire of His love and the flame of everlasting charity.

***The washing of hands takes place at this point***

**Priest:** I wash my hands in innocence O Lord, and so I'll go to your Altar. Lord, I have loved your House, the place where Your honour dwells. My foot stands right ... I will praise the Lord. ***(priest returns to centre, audibly saying while bowing)*** ...

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Priest:** Into this offering of the world we would gather, first, those closest to us, those whom we love, those whose lives are bound up with our own . . .

*All pause and reflect on all those involved in our personal lives to whom, we send love, light and blessings . . . the Priest and people continue:*

*All:* With these who are special to us, we also unite with those more distant and less familiar, the great multitude of humankind, scattered over every part of the globe; in deepest sympathy and understanding, we unite ourselves with the ceaseless pilgrimage of humanity, past, present and future, with its joys and sorrows, its hopes and fears, that we may be at one with it all;

**Priest:** We would draw into this offering every form of life; animals and birds, especially our pets. We also draw into this offering . . . trees, flowers and fruits, rocks and fire, wind and water, and the very fabric of the earth itself; and we offer ourselves; all we have and all we are. Let all existence be now placed here on our Altar that we may raise it up to you, the All in Everything.

*The chalice and paten (or host) are elevated, one in either hand.*

**Priest:** Receive, O Source of life, this bread and this wine, Gifts of the earth and the work of human hands, Symbols of your manifold creation, in all its light and in all its darkness.

## **CONSECRATION**

*The priest may raise his hands.*

*All:* Creative power, shining, immortal spirit, life of the earth and all its creatures, so infuse our world with your love that it may more and more be restored to you.

**Priest:** Timeless Word, outpouring of the mysterious ineffable One, you who are forever moulding this world of manifold phenomena incorporating it more and more into your divine life, you who are ever plunging yourself into its vast depths so as to renew us, and everything which is within and around us; breathe into it now, your transforming power;

*All:* May all life, past, present and future, that which was, that which is and that which is to come, be now elevated at this altar of the world, that in and through you, Eternal, Cosmic Christ, it may be presented, a holy sacrifice, in the secret place of the Most High; that all may be consecrated unto that great day of the fulfilment of all creation, when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, and all things shall, in and through you, be again united with the One from whom they came.

*After a pause, the priest lifts his hands in the usual way.*

**Priest:** The Lord be with you

*People:* And also with you.

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts

*People:* We lift them up on high

*With hands joined, the priest says:*

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to our God

*People:* It is good and right to do so.



**Priest:** God of all power, you are worthy of glory and praise; in you all things come to birth, the vast expanse of the cosmos, its galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this precious earth, our island home.

**All:** In you they are created and have their being.

**Priest:** And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly choirs, with prophets, apostles, and sages and with all those who in every generation have known you under the veil of earthly things; with these we proclaim your presence in one unending hymn;

*The priest lifts his arms, then joins hands at 'Holy, Holy, Holy:*

**All:** Holy, holy, holy One, God of all creation. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are those who come in the Name of the Lord; ✠ Hosanna in the highest.

**Priest:** Especially do we make this offering; For all your people everywhere, that they may perform the divine work with selfless dedication;

**All:** For all who guide and direct the thoughts of the people, for leaders and administrators, for artists, authors, musicians and scientists, that our life in the world may be crowned with truth and beauty;

**Priest:** For all who heal the mind and body and tend the sick and the afflicted, that they may follow in the footsteps of Christ, the Great Physician;

**All:** For all on whose work we depend for the necessities of life, that we may value their labours, and that they may realise in daily toil the greater good of all;

**Priest:** For parents and children, partners and friends, that strength, love and honour may dwell in our homes, and that duty and affection may be the bond of relationship;

For all who are afflicted in mind, body or estate, *especially for . . .*

for those in pain and trouble, for the blind, the deaf, the mute, the maimed;

For those whose livelihood is insecure or who are hungry, homeless or destitute;

For those who are depressed, anxious or afraid, that they may be uplifted and sustained;

For those about to re-enter this world through the portal of birth, and for their mothers-to-be, *especially for . . . (pause)*

For those departed this life, *especially for . . . (pause)*

May they rest in in Your Eternal Peace and may Light Perpetual shine upon them.

and for all of us here present, united in our worship.

Let us pause to send each other love, light and blessings ...

**PAUSE**

*In silence, all now reflect vividly on these special intents.*

## CONSECRATION

Priest: We ask that your Holy Spirit may descend upon us and upon this ✕ bread and this ✕ wine which we now set before you, that they may be for us the most precious spiritual Body and Blood of Christ and that we and all the world being gathered into Christ may with and through Him be offered a holy and living sacrifice to you, that the whole earth shall be delivered up to the Creator in the Christ, the All-in-everything.

Therefore we your servants now offer and present to you, O Source of Light and Love, this ✕ bread of eternal life and this ✕ cup of everlasting salvation in and through Christ, who, on the night before he died, took bread, ✕ blessed and broke it, and when he had given thanks, He gave it to his disciples, saying;  
*take and eat of this, all of you,*

***THIS IS MY BODY***

***The Host is censed and elevated***

And after supper He took the cup and again after giving thanks, He ✕ blessed it and gave it to them, saying;  
*take and drink of this, all of you,*

***THIS IS MY BLOOD***

***The Chalice is censed and elevated.***

Priest: Whenever you do these things, I am present with you.

*There is a pause, as we reflect on the words, I am present with you.*

Priest: As often as this act is done, the Eternal Word is born again in the depths of the world.



***All:*** Every day may you take our hands, our actions and our words, and perform through them the miracle of the world's transformation; and bring all at the last to that timeless waking when the fullness of creation shall be revealed; when there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one perfect light, no hopes nor fears, but one full possession, no discords nor opposites, but one single truth, no beginning nor ending, but one eternity, in the splendour of your glory and the majesty of your dominion.

***At "All glory . . ." below, the chalice and host are raised.***

## THE ELEVATION

Priest: All glory and honour is yours, Eternal Source of Life and Love, throughout the ages of ages.

***All:*** Amen.

## THE PEACE

**Priest:** The peace of God be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*The people may share the peace with each other.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Priest:** According to the rites of old, let's all say together . . .

**All:** 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, the power, and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen.

## A TRANSFORMED COMMUNITY

*The priest raises hands in prayer. Then at the word 'stand' he blesses himself with the paten, takes the bread onto the paten in a 'scooping' action and leaves the bread lying on the paten on the altar.*

**Priest:** In the bonds of infinite love all heaven and earth are united in one sacred communion; now we ✠ stand with the saints of all ages in the glory of the one Light Eternal.

## FRACTION

*At the word 'break' the priest picks up the host and breaks it over the chalice, placing the two broken pieces beside each other on the paten. At the barriers' he breaks off a smaller piece, and at 'one' (with all creation) he drops the small piece into the chalice.*

**Priest:** And as the One became many only to restore all to unity, so do we break this the body of the world consecrated, breaking in this action the barriers which confine the light within us and within the universe itself; ✠ that light which, spread by your power and ✠ inspiring all our endeavour ✠ will make all lives one in you as you are one with all creation.

## COMMUNION

**Priest:** O Christ of energy and light, the divine influence working in the depths of our world, and the shining centre where all the strands of creation meet; power as vast as the cosmos yet as warm as life; you who are the first and the last, the living and the dead and the risen again; draw us now into communion with you.

*The Agnes Dei may be said or sung . . .*

## **SOURCE OF LIGHT**

*All:* Source of light, your wisdom upholds the earth, Pour forth your love;  
Guiding word, your strength sustains all Creation, Receive our prayer;  
Timeless One, your beauty shows through all living things, Grant us your peace.

*After the Source of Light the celebrant then any assistants are communicated in order, then the priest blesses the people with the Host held over the chalice, and says:*

The gifts of God are for everyone. All are welcome at the ☩Table of the Lord.

*Communion is usually by intinction, and the priest or other authorised minister usually administers the host, which has been dipped into the chalice, into the mouth of each recipient, saying . . .*

The Body ☩ and blood of Christ keep you to eternal life.

*After all have received Holy Communion, the Ablutions are performed with background music.*

## **UNIVERSAL TRANSFORMATION**

*All:* O Giver of the gift of life, your divine strength sustains us always, and it is therefore within our power to make of our lives whatever you would have them be; we have offered them to you that in our lives ... your life ... shall be revealed to us.

## **CONCLUSION**

*With hands joined, the priest says:*

**Priest:** Our work here is ended; we go forth to continue your labour of transformation within the world;

Let the love of God radiate through all creation, in benediction, peace, and joy.

And now we thank the Angel of our Eucharist . . . Ite, missa est

*People:* Deo gratias.

## **THE BLESSING**

*Priest:* The blessing of God the Father, God the ☩ Son and God the Holy Spirit inspire and empower you and all whom you love in the divine work, this day now and always.

*All sing:* single verse Amen.

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN**

**Priest:** Friends, as we come towards the conclusion of our service today, please join us in our Recessional Hymn # ..., and then in saying the first part of the First Ray Benediction.

## FIRST RAY BENEDICTION

*All:* May the Holy Ones, whose pupils we aspire to become, show us the light we seek; give us the strong aid of their compassion and their wisdom. There is a peace that passes understanding; it abides in the hearts of those who live in the eternal; there is a power that makes all things new; it lives and moves in those who know the self as one.



*Priest:* May that peace brood over you, that power uplift you, till you stand where the One Initiator is invoked, till you see his ✠ Star shine forth.

*All sing:* 4-verse Amen.

