

Welcome to St Edward's. You are joining a tradition of Christian worship on this site which predates the first recorded building here in 986. Whilst none of this early church remains, some of the stone around us dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. We hope that you will enjoy being part of this heritage today and, if you live in Stow, will become part of the regular community of faith celebrating the presence of the risen Jesus with us each week.

## ¶ *The Gathering*

*At the entry of the ministers a hymn is sung.*

### Hymn

### The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

**All and also with you.**

*From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**All He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said.*

### Prayer of Preparation

*This prayer is said*

**All 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.**

## Prayers of Penitence

*The following Summary of the Law or other words may be used*

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
The first commandment is this:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**All Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

*A minister uses a seasonal invitation to confession or these words*

God so loved the world  
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ  
to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven,  
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with all.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

*or*

**All** Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.

*The president says*

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*We stand. The Gloria in Excelsis may be said or sung*

**All** 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.

## The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words 'Let us pray' or a more specific bidding.*

*The Collect is said, and all respond*

**All Amen.**

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

### Readings

*We sit for either one or two readings from Scripture which precede the Gospel reading. A psalm or canticle may follow the first reading.*

*At the end of each the reader may say*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### Hymn

*We remain standing for the Gospel reading*

*We may sing the responses before and after this*

### Gospel Reading

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says*

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

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The preacher will invite us to sit*

### Sermon

## The Creed

*Words of introduction may be said as we stand to say the Nicene Creed*

**All** 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,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
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.

## Prayers of Intercession

*We sit or kneel to pray*

*This response may be used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All** hear our prayer.

*And at the end*

**All** accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

### **The Peace**

*The president introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence, and then says*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**All** **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

### **Hymn**

### **Preparation of the Table**

### **Taking of the Bread and Wine**

*The gifts of the people are gathered, the table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it*

*One or more of the prayers at the preparation of the table may be said*

*The president takes the bread and wine*

*When we come to receive communion all those who would normally do so in their own churches are most welcome to receive here at St Edward's*

*If you would prefer to receive a personal blessing, please come to the altar rail with this booklet as an indication to the minister that this is your intention.*

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*If an extended Preface is used, it replaces all of the words between the opening dialogue and 'Holy, holy, holy Lord'.*

*The president says or sings*

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*The following may be omitted if a Short Proper Preface is used*

For he is your living Word;  
through him you have created all things from the beginning,  
and formed us in your own image.  
Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;  
you raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.  
Through him you have sent upon us  
your holy and life-giving Spirit,  
and made us a people for your own possession.

*Short Proper Preface, when appropriate*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**All 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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;  
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
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.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith  
**All Christ has died:**  
**Christ is risen:**  
**Christ will come again.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

*The service continues with the Lord's Prayer on page 13*

## **Eucharistic Prayer E**

*If an extended Preface is used, it replaces all of the words between the opening dialogue and 'Holy, holy, holy Lord'.*

*The president says or sings*

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

**All** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.  
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.  
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you, and *saying*:

**All 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.  
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, 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.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection.

*One of these acclamations is used*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

*(or)*

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**All Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Edward, King and Confessor, and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

*The service continues with the Lord's Prayer on page 13*

## Eucharistic Prayer G

*The president says or sings*

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
our light and our salvation;  
to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the beginning you have created all things  
and all your works echo the silent music of your praise.  
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
the crown of all creation.

You give us breath and speech, that with angels and archangels  
and all the powers of heaven  
we may find a voice to sing your praise:

**All 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,  
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.

*One of these acclamations is used*

Great is the mystery of faith:

**All Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again**

*(or)*

Jesus Christ is Lord

**All Lord by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

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.

Bring us at the last with Edward, King and Confessor, 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:

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

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**All** Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.

*or*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

**All** we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.

*The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken*

**All** 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.

## Giving of Communion

*The president says the invitation to communion below or other suitable words*

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

*or, from Easter Day to Pentecost*

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

**All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*One of these prayers may be said before the distribution*

**All We do not presume  
to come to this your table, merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your manifold and great mercies.  
We are not worthy  
so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.  
But you are the same Lord  
whose nature is always to have mercy.  
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.  
Amen.**

*or*

**All Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean,  
our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

*The president and people receive communion.*

*Authorized words of distribution are used and the communicant replies  
**Amen.***

*During the distribution hymns and anthems may be sung.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Silence and stillness is kept*

*The Post Communion or another suitable prayer is said.*

*All may say one of these prayers*

**All** Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.

*or*

**All** Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## ¶ *The Dismissal*

### **Blessing**

*The president will use a seasonal or other suitable blessing*

### **Hymn**

*We stand to sing our recessional hymn*

### **Dismissal**

*A minister says*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*or, from Easter Day to Pentecost*

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

**All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*The ministers and people depart.*

*Coffee is usually served after a Sunday morning Communion Service.  
Please join us at the back of church.*