**A Service of Holy Communion**

**during the period of mourning following the death of HRH The Prince Philip**

*Please join in with the words in bold.*

**Greeting**

‘I am the resurrection and the life’, says the Lord. ‘Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.’

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, you judge us with infinite mercy and justice and love everything you have made.

In your mercy turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life, and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

**Hymn**

**The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
the darkness falls at thy behest;  
to thee our morning hymns ascended,  
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.  
  
We thank thee that thy church unsleeping,  
while earth rolls onward into light,  
through all the world her watch is keeping,  
and rests not now by day or night.  
  
As o'er each continent and island**

**the dawn leads on another day,  
the voice of prayer is never silent,  
nor dies the strain of praise away.  
  
The sun that bids us rest is waking  
our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
and hour by hour fresh lips are making  
thy wondrous doings heard on high.**  
**So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,  
like earth's proud empires, pass away;  
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,  
till all thy creatures own thy sway.**

**Confession and absolution**

God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of his glory in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. As we acknowledge our human frailty, we call to mind our sins of word, deed and omission, and confess them before God our Father.

*Silence is kept.*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May God our Father forgive us our sins and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom, where dust and ashes have no dominion. **Amen**.

**The Collect**

Merciful Father and Lord of all life, we praise you that we are made in your image and reflect your truth and light. We thank you for the life of His Royal Highness Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, for the love he received from you and showed among us. Above all, we rejoice at your gracious promise to all your servants, living and departed, that we shall rise again at the coming of Christ. And we ask that in due time we may share with your servant Philip that clearer vision promised to us in the same Christ our Lord; who is alive and

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen**.

**First reading**

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:4

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel reading**

John 6:35-40

Alleluia, alleluia.

‘It is the will of him who sent me’, says the Lord,‘that I should lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up on the last day’.

**Alleluia**.

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Prayers of intercession**

Eternal God, our heavenly Father, we bless your holy name for all that you have given us in and through the life of Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. We give you thanks: for his long and full life; for his strength of character; and for his devotion and service to family, nation and Commonwealth. We praise you for: his generosity; the many contributions he made to our national life; and the encouragement he gave to so many, especially to the young.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*Other prayers are offered, using the same response.*

*At the end:*

God of mercy, entrusting into your hands all that you have made and rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people, we make our prayers through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**.

**The Peace**

Jesus says: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Hymn**

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide:  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:  
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,  
help of the helpless, O abide with me.  
  
Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
change and decay in all around I see:  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.  
  
I need thy presence every passing hour;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.  
  
I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.  
  
Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

**Eucharistic Prayer**

May all who are called to a place at your table

follow in the way that leads to the unending feast of life. **Amen**.

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, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now we give you thanks because through him you have given us the hope of a glorious resurrection;

so that, although death comes to us all, yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life; for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away;

and when our mortal flesh is laid aside an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven.

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:

**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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ’s holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and 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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,**

**rising you restored our life:**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion,

the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension

of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Grant that by his merits and death,

and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins

and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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 for ever. Amen.**

**The breaking of bread**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.**

*The president receives the bread and wine.*

**Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

**Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.**

**Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch your body, so may the soul of your servants be healed, for though we cannot all receive you in the sacrament we can, through this offering of our prayer, receive you in our hearts; grant this for Christ’s sake. Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Father in Heaven, whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace, an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem: grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage that, fed with the living bread of heaven and united in the body of your Son, we may be the temple of your presence, the place of

your glory on earth, and a sign of your peace in the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**.

**Closing hymn**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore.  
  
Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield.  
  
When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee.

**Blessing**

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all humankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**National Anthem**

**God save our gracious Queen,**

**Long live our noble Queen,**

**God save the Queen!**

**Send her victorious,**

**Happy and glorious,**

**Long to reign over us:**

**God save the Queen.**

**Lent Appeal**

There is still time to contribute to this year’s Bishop’s Lent Appeal, which is raising funds to train and empower women in northern Kenya, where there are high levels of poverty and low levels of education.

Training in literacy and business skills will be provided, supporting women as they set up micro-finance projects to improve their lives and those of their communities. The Mothers Union, in partnership with charity Five Talents, are leading this work.

As we can’t take a collection in church for the appeal, you can make a contribution by text, or online, or using a QR code.

Web donations: <http://easydonate.org/LENT21>

Text donations:

To donate £3, text LENT21 to 70331

To donate £5, text LENT21 to 70970

To donate £10, text LENT21 to 70191

QR code:

Qr code

Description automatically generated

We will take donations for the Lent Appeal until the end of April, when we’ll forward the total to the diocese as our contribution.

*\* Fundraising, payments and donations will be processed and administered by the National Funding Scheme (Charity No: 1149800), operating as DONATE. Texts will be charged at your standard network rate. For Terms & Conditions, see*[*www.easydonate.org*](http://www.easydonate.org/)

