

The Blyth Valley
Team Ministry



The
Lammass Eucharist

Notes to Lammas, or the Loaf Mass

From "Common Worship Times and Seasons":

Lammas or 'Loaf-mass' (derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'Hlafmaesse') is an English feast in origin, held on 1 August as a thanksgiving for the first-fruits of the wheat harvest. Traditionally, a newly-baked loaf from the wheat harvest was presented before God within the mass of that day. While the ceremony ceased at the Reformation, reference to Lammas Day continued in the Prayer Book calendar, and the practice has been revived in some places in more recent years. The tradition of giving thanks for the first-fruits need not be limited to 1 August, and churches are at liberty to decide when to hold such a celebration. Here, material is provided to form the Gathering rite of the Eucharist. The Lammas loaf should ideally be baked by members of the congregation, using local produce wherever possible. Other small loaves or buns, in the tradition of 'blessed bread', may be distributed to the congregation. Part of the Lammas loaf may be used as the eucharistic bread on this occasion. Two patterns of readings are suggested, the first concerning the offering of the first-fruits and the second concerning the Bread of Life.

From the Rector:

Lammas has clearly pagan origins and was one of the festivals of the Celtic year held around 1 August. Its pre-Christian history is varied and disputed, some traditions being more colourful and challenging to our modern sensibilities than others. However, it was always to do with the celebration of the earth's fecundity and a celebration of the bringing in of the first ripened wheat. As so often happened, the Church 'baptised' Lammas and so we have the Loaf Mass we celebrate today.

[The 'Antidoron' you will see at the end of the Eucharist is a sharing out of the bread which was blessed (the Lammas Loaf) but which has not been consecrated. It is a very ancient tradition of the Church. Take a piece for yourself and take some for folks at home as a symbol of the Church's care and to enable them to share in our festival of the first-fruits.]

Jesus said, I am the bread of life; those who come to me shall never be hungry and those who believe in me shall never thirst.

The Entrance Song

In the name ✠ of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Blessing of the Lammas Loaf

Sisters and brothers in Christ, the people of God in ancient times presented to the Lord an offering of first fruits as a sign of their dependence upon God for their daily bread. At this Lammastide, we bring a newly-baked loaf as our offering in thanksgiving to God for his faithfulness.

The Lammas loaf is brought to the priest.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,
you bring forth bread from the fields.
and give us the fruits of the earth in their seasons.
Accept this loaf, which we bring before you,
made from the harvest of your goodness.
Let it be for us a sign of your fatherly care.
Blessed are you, Lord our God,
worthy of our thanksgiving and praise.
Blessed be God for ever.

Penitence

As those who know the generosity of God, and also the ways in which we take his good gifts for granted, let us confess our sins in penitence and faith:

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.
Let us not be led into temptation.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you give us this day our daily bread.
Deliver us from evil.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The priest says:

Almighty God
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.
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.**

The Collect

Eternal God,
you give us sun and rain to ripen the grain
and give us the Eucharist as the first-fruits of eternal life:
grant that as we celebrate the festival of Lammas
our hearts may be filled both with thanksgiving
and with concern for those who hunger;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (Part of 147)

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

How good it is to make music for our God,
how joyful to honour him with praise.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem
and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the broken-hearted
and binds up all their wounds.

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his wisdom is beyond all telling.

The Lord lifts up the poor,
but casts down the wicked to the ground.

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music to our God upon the lyre;

Who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth;

Who makes grass to grow upon the mountains
and green plants to serve our needs.

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He gives the beasts their food
and the young ravens when they cry.

Sing praise to the Lord, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion;

He has established peace in your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

Alleluia. He satisfies you with the finest wheat.

The New Testament Lesson

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



The Gospel Song

The Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to _____

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ**

The Sermon

Please sit after the invocation of the Trinity.

Silence follows the Sermon.

The Intercessions

Response:

For earthly nourishment and the bread of heaven,
we thank you, Lord.

The Peace

The Lord says: I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no one shall make you afraid; You shall eat old grain long stored, and you shall have to clear out the old to make way for the new.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Peace is shared.

The Offering Song

During the Offering, bread, wine and money are brought to the altar, the altar is prepared and the Collection is taken.

The Offering Prayer is said.

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside
are now reunited on this altar in bread and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom.

Amen.

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.

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:

**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
until he comes in glory.

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.**

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 Our Lady, St Peter 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.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

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.

The 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.**

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is 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.**

Receiving Communion

The bread of heaven in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The cup of life in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



Song after Communion

The Lord says, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty"

Prayer after Communion

O God,
your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread:
open the eyes of our faith,
that we may see him in his redeeming work,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Blessing and Dismissal

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples.
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 the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.



The Sending Song

The Antidoron

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This Eucharist follows Order One in the Book of Common Worship, 2000

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