



**Saint Cyprian  
of Carthage  
Bishop and Martyr**

**September 12, 2021**

**Order of Service**

**The Rev. Ellis Clifton**  
*Celebrant*

**St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church**

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# Saint Cyprian -Bishop of Carthage

## *Cyprian's Conversion*

The details of Cyprian's early life remain obscure. He was probably born around 200 A.D. to wealthy parents. He received a high education for the profession of a rhetorician. Before his conversion, he was a leading member of a legal fraternity in Carthage.

Cyprian became close friends with a presbyter named Cæcilius. This friend led Cyprian to his conversion and baptism around the year 246 A.D. At his baptism he took the name Cæcilius, as part of his own name in honor of his friend. Afterwards he devoted his energy to the study and practice of Christianity.

The church in Carthage ordained Cyprian as bishop rapidly following his conversion. He was resistant to take the position, and the elder presbyters objected greatly. However, because of overwhelming public insistence he accepted the office of Bishop of Carthage (A.D. 248). He held this position until his martyrdom (A.D. 258).

## *Persecution Under Decian*

Around the year 250 A.D. the entire church was put to an undesired test. The Emperor Decian issued an edict that sacrifices be made throughout the empire, to strengthen the state and religion of Rome. The persecution of Christians was especially severe in Carthage. Cyprian decided to go into hiding to avoid execution. Many Christians fell during the persecution. They got the name Lapsi (the fallen). The Lapsi got signed statements saying they had sacrificed to the Roman gods. In some cases, the Christians actually did sacrifice. Cyprian found these compromises cowardly and insisted on repentance before allowing the Lapsi re-admittance to the church. However, since Cyprian was absent other elders began re-admitting Christians to communion without public repentance.

A schism broke out in Carthage. The laxest Christians and elders who defended them were trying to block measures taken by Cyprian in his absence. After fourteen months Cyprian returned to Carthage. He convoked a council of North African bishops at Carthage to consider the treatment of the lapsed. Cyprian took a middle course between the followers of Novatus of Carthage who were in favor of welcoming back all with little or no penance, and Novatian of Rome who would not allow any of those who had lapsed to be reconciled. The council in the main sided with Cyprian.

## *Cyprian's death under Valerian*

At the end of 256 another persecution broke out under Emperor Valerian. Cyprian prepared his people for the persecution through his writing *De exhortatione martyrii*. Cyprian set an example of faithfulness to God before the Roman proconsul. He refused to sacrifice to the pagan deities and immovably professed Christ. As a result the Romans banished him to the town of Korba, ancient Curubis. From there he wrote to encourage his flock. He lived as a prisoner in his own villa.

On September 14, 258 A.D. Galerius Maximus interrogated Cyprian publicly. The Romans took Cyprian to the place of execution directly after examination. A vast multitude followed Cyprian on his last journey. He removed his garments without assistance, knelt down, and prayed. After he blindfolded himself, he was beheaded by the sword. Christians buried his body near the place of execution.

-Information based on writings of Philip Schaff

# The Holy Eucharist

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Call To Worship "Just A Little Talk With Jesus" (*The Choir*)

Opening Hymn: 1982 Hymnal 275 - "Hark The Sound of Holy Voices"

Holy Days and Various Occasions

275

1 Hark! the sound of ho - ly voic - es, chant - ing at the crys - tal sea,  
2 Pa - tri - arch, and ho - ly pro - phet, who pre - pared the way for Christ,  
3 March - ing with thy cross, their ban - ner, they have tri - umphed fol - low - ing  
4 Now they reign in heav - en - ly glo - ry, now they walk in gold - en light,

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Lord, to thee!  
king, a - pos - tle, saint, con - fes - sor, mar - tyr and e - van - gel - ist,  
thee, the Cap - tain of sal - va - tion, thee, their Sa - vior and their King.  
now they drink, as from a riv - er, ho - ly bliss and in - fi - nite;

Mul - ti - tude which none can num - ber like the stars in glo - ry stands,  
saint - ly maid - en, god - ly ma - tron, wid - ows who have watched to prayer,  
Glad - ly, Lord, with thee they suf - fered; glad - ly, Lord, with thee they died;  
love and peace they taste for ev - er, and all truth and know - ledge see

clothed in white ap - par - el, hold - ing palms of vic - tory in their hands.  
joined in ho - ly con - cert, sing - ing to the Lord of all, are there.  
and by death to life im - mor - tal they were born and glo - ri - fied.  
in the be - a - tif - ic vi - sion of the bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

*Saints' Days; All Saints' Day (November 1).*

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885)

Music: Moultrie, Gerard Francis Cobb (1838-1904)

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# The Word of God

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.**

Hymn: LEVAS 47 "Cyprian Of Carthage"

## Cyprian of Carthage

47

(September 13)

1. O Cyp - ri - an, con - vert to the faith, Made bish - op  
2. O Cyp - ri - an, you did teach that we who God Al -  
3. O Cyp - ri - an, you did teach that we out - side the  
4. Stead - fast de - fend - er of the truth, through Af - ric's

1. of the Car - thage See, Be - set, by schism,  
2. might - y Fa - ther call, Must claim the church, The  
3. church can - not be saved, Help us to bring forth  
4. coast you gained re - nown, Who per - se - cu - ted,

1. war and strife, Preached to the faith - ful u - ni - ty.  
2. Bride of Christ As the true moth - er of us all.  
3. pen - i - tents Un - to Christ's font, that they be laved.  
4. and be - sieged, Re - ceived, at last, the mar - tyr's crown.

5. O Cyprian bishop, martyr blest  
Pray for us at God's heav'nly throne,  
That we, who Christ's true faith confess  
May Father, Son and Spirit own.

Words: Harold T. Lewis (b. 1947)

Music: *Rockingham*, from *Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature*, c. 1780; harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807)

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## KYRIE

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

People: *Christ, have mercy.*

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

## THE COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who gave to your servant Cyprian holiness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world and courage to die for this faith. Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON: LEVITICUS 19:2-18

2 “Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: ‘Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy. 3 “ ‘Each of you must respect your mother and father, and you must observe my Sabbaths. I am the LORD your God. 4 “ ‘Do not turn to idols or make metal gods for yourselves. I am the LORD your God. 5 “ ‘When you sacrifice a fellowship offering to the LORD, sacrifice it in such a way that it will be accepted on your behalf. 6 It shall be eaten on the day you sacrifice it or on the next day; anything left over until the third day must be burned up. 7 If any of it is eaten on the third day, it is impure and will not be accepted. 8 Whoever eats it will be held responsible because they have desecrated what is holy to the LORD; they must be cut off from their people. 9 “ ‘When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God. 11 “ ‘Do not steal. “ ‘Do not lie. “ ‘Do not deceive one another.

12 “ ‘Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD. 13 “ ‘Do not defraud or rob your neighbor. “ ‘Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight. 14 “ ‘Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the LORD. 15 “ ‘Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly. 16 “ ‘Do not go about spreading slander among your people. “ ‘Do not do anything that endangers your neighbor’s life. I am the LORD. 17 “ ‘Do

not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. 18 “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

### THE PSALM 116:10-17

10 I trusted in the LORD when I said, “I am greatly afflicted”; 11 in my alarm I said, “Everyone is a liar.” 12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his goodness to me? 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD. 14 I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful servants. 16 Truly I am your servant, LORD; I serve you just as my mother did; you have freed me from my chains. 17 I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the LORD.

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.**

### THE SECOND LESSON: JAMES 4:11-17

11 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. 12 There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbour?

13 Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.’ 14 Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.’ 16 As it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. 17 Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.

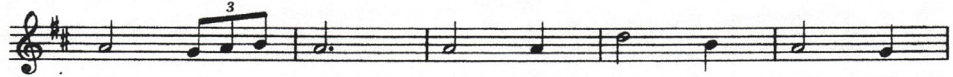
Sequence Hymn: 1982 Hymnal 645 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

645

The Christian Life



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose good - ness  
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my ran - somed  
 \*3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in  
 \*4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear  
 5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion  
 6 And so through all the length of days thy good - ness



1 fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
 2 soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant  
 3 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der  
 4 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my  
 5 grace be - stow - eth; and oh, what trans - port  
 6 fail - eth nev - er: Good Shep - herd, may I



1 I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.  
 2 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.  
 3 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
 4 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.  
 5 of de - light from thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!  
 6 sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

Words: Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877); para. of Psalm 23  
 Music: St. Columba, Irish melody

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*Then, all standing, the Celebrant reads the Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

The Gospel John 10: 11-16. (*Please stand.*)

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep



pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## THE SERMON

### THE NICENE CREED

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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - FORM III

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People: *That we all may be one.*

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest;

People: *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. *Silence*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant and People:* Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says:*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

*Please stay in your pew as you bid your neighbor peace.*

## The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn: LEVAS 198 "Love Lifted Me"

1. I was sink - ing deep in sin, Far from the peace - ful shore, —  
 2. All my heart to Him I give, Ev - er to Him I'll cling, —  
 3. Souls in dan - ger, look a - bove, Je - sus com - plete - ly saves; —

1. Ver - y deep - ly stained with - in, Sink - ing to rise no more; —  
 2. In His bless - ed pres - ence live, Ev - er His praise - es sing. —  
 3. He will lift you by His love, Out of the an - gry waves. —

1. But the mas - ter of the sea Heard my de - spair - ing cry, —  
 2. Love so might - y and so true Mer - its my soul's best songs; —  
 3. He's the mas - ter of the sea, Bil - lows His will o - bey; —

1. From the wa - ters lift - ed me — Now safe am I. —  
 2. Faith - ful, lov - ing ser - vice, too, To Him be - longs. —  
 3. He your sav - ior wants to be — Be saved to - day. —

Love lift - ed me, — Love lift - ed me, —

Love lift - ed e - ven me, Love lift - ed e - ven me, When noth - ing

else could help, Love lift - ed me; — Love lift - ed me. —

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*The people stand or kneel. The celebrant continues:*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.*

# THE INVITATION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Hymn LEVAS 138 – Lord I Want To Be A Christian In My Heart”

138

## Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart, In my heart; —  
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart, In my heart; —  
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, In my heart; —  
4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart, In my heart; —  
5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, In my heart; —

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart, \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart, \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart, \_\_\_\_\_  
4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart, \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, \_\_\_\_\_

In my heart, In my heart, In my heart, In my heart,

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian In my heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing In my heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly In my heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. I don't want to be like Ju - das In my heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart. \_\_\_\_\_

Words: Traditional  
Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Edward C. Deas  
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## AFTER COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn 1982 Hymnal “Christ Is Made A Sure Foundation”

*(Begins on the next page.)*



*Descant*

4 Here vouch-safe to all thy serv-ants what they ask of  
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev-er

1 Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ the head and  
 2 All that ded-i-cat-ed ci-ty, dear-ly loved of  
 3 To this tem-ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of  
 4 Here vouch-safe to all thy serv-ants what they ask of

cor-ner-stone, cho-sen of the Lord, and pre-cious,  
 God on high, in ex-ult-ant ju-bi-la-tion  
 Hosts, to-day; with thy wont-ed lov-ing-kind-ness  
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev-er

with the bless-ed to re-tain, and here-af-ter  
 bind-ing all the Church in one; ho-ly Zi-on's  
 pours per-pet-ual mel-o-dy; God the One in  
 hear thy serv-ants as they pray, and thy full-est  
 with the bless-ed to re-tain, and here-af-ter

## DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*