



Sacrament of Holy Communion Service for Lent Received at the Altar

All Christians, including children and visitors are welcome to participate whenever we celebrate God's love for us in this way.

Please note that the bread that the pastor will serve you is not gluten free, but we have gluten free wafers available – just ask for one when you approach the plate. An elder next to the pastor will hold the tray of communion cups so that you can select either red containing wine or white containing juice. When done, put your cup in the basket provided.

Invitation:

Pastor: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, and on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

People: **This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about the table of Christ.**

Pastor: This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people. God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

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

Recalling God's Act of Salvation:

Pastor: We give thanks, Holy One, almighty and eternal God, always and everywhere, through Jesus Christ, the only one begotten by you before all time, by whom you made the world and all things. We bless you for your continual love and care for every creature. We praise you for forming us in your image and for calling us to be your people. Although we rebelled against your love, you did not abandon us in our sin but sent to us prophets and teachers to lead us into the way of salvation. Above all, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus, our only Savior, who is the way, the truth and the life.

In the fullness of time, you came to us and received our nature in the person of Jesus, who, in obedience to you, by suffering on the cross, and being raised from the dead, delivered us from the way of sin and death. We praise you that Jesus now reigns with you in glory and ever lives to pray for us. We thank you for the Holy Spirit who leads us into truth, defends us in adversity, and gathers us from every people on earth to unite us in one holy church. Therefore, with the entire company of saints in heaven and on earth, we worship and glorify you, God Most Holy. In response, let us sing together ...

The Seraphic Hymn: # 795, Hymnal

**Holy, Holy, Holy, God of the heavenly host; heaven and earth are full, are full of the majesty of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!**

The Remembrance:

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me".

In the same way - also the cup, after supper, saying, "This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me". Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith...

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

Pastor: Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory. We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service in behalf of all people.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

All: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen.

Breaking of Bread and Pouring Wine:

Pastor: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ. The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

All: Have mercy on us and grant us peace.

Call to the Supper:

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Sharing the Elements: (Distribution of the Bread and Drink)

Come forward to receive, beginning with the people on the piano side of the church - starting at the front to back. Then the people on the window side of the church, front to back. Approach one at a time to receive the bread and eat; then go to the trays and drink; then put your empty cup in the basket provided on the front pew. Return to your seat using the window side aisle of the church and then take the center aisle to your pew. During this time, please maintain a quiet, peaceful mood for the sake of those among us who may be praying in silence. Thank you.

Pastor offers the Living Bread from the Plate

Person Responds: "Amen". Then eats.

Elder offers Tray of Wine and Grape Juice

Person Responds: "Amen". Then drinks and drops empty cup into the basket provided.

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Pastor: Let us stand and pray together our prayer of thanksgiving printed in the bulletin...

All: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this Holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may

faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Commissioning:

Pastor: Let us join our voices together in commissioning one another for the work ahead of us as the followers of our Savior Jesus Christ...

All: Let us go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sung Response: #2068, "I Love You, Lord" (praise book)

**I love you, Lord and I lift my voice to worship you,
o my soul rejoice. Take joy, my king, in what you hear –
may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.**