

**COSSO SPIRITUAL FORMATION
CELEBRATION IN COMMUNION**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

**LITURGY FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (OCTOBER 6)**

**PRELUDE
WELCOME**

CALL TO WORSHIP

From north and south,
from east and west, we come:

**God's people called to the Table
where simple grace nourishes us.**

From down the street to across town,
from single households to apartment dwellers:

**God's people are called to community,
where we live and serve one another.**

From every class and every race;
from little ones to elders with overflowing hearts:

God's people are called to witness to God's hope, to offer peace to a shattered world.

HYMN "BIND US TOGETHER"

TFWS 2226

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Faith, hope, love have all been passed on to us, so we might share them with others. Let us lift our prayers to the One who is always ready to welcome us and place forgiveness in our hearts,

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

God of all the world, we think if we turn away, we will not need to listen to the voices of our neighbors. Blessed with family and friends, we turn away from the lonely. Living in a world with war and poverty, we do not notice the sorrow and tears of others. We do not understand those who are broken by the anger and brutality of the world.

**Creator God, in every face we see your love reflected,
each person is made in your image, marked by love and precious to you.**

You have made a world full of diversity, where your Spirit moves and blesses each one.

Help us to live free of that which is used against us and that which we use against others.

**Help us to recognize the presence of Christ among us,
in your name we pray. Amen.**

(Silence is kept as we pray for forgiveness)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is ever faithful; hope is the gift passed on to us; love is the gift we can share with others; God's mercies never come to an end.

Great is God's faithfulness to all people, in all places. Thanks be to God, who has given us the promise of life in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.



DEDICATION AND INVITATION

We are here, because of those who passed on their faith to us, because God has blessed us with gifts beyond imagination.

We pass on these gifts of God's love at this table of remembrance where all are welcome.

HYMN

"ONE BREAD, ONE BODY"

UMH 620

OUR UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST: EPHESIANS 4:1-6

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

OUR CONNECTION IN COMMUNITY

(Rev Dr Rebeka Maples, spiritual formation)

HYMN

"MAKE US ONE"

TFWS 2224

AN ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Note: *the order of Holy Communion follows the four actions of Jesus in the upper room (see Book of Worship 27-30; 431); **Matthew 26:26** "While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."*

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

(facing the people, the pastor takes the bread and cup, prepares/uncovers the elements)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(prayer of thanks and blessing)*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God, from the ends of the earth you have gathered us around Christ's holy table.

We come to feast together.

Have mercy on your church, troubled and divided.

Renew us and make us one. Amen.

Creator of the Universe,

you spoke your Word and your Spirit swept over the waters,

you created all that is.

Prophets came to remind us of your faithfulness, but we turned away.

You would not forget us, and so you sent Jesus to bring us home to you.

Therefore we join our voices, as we sing of your mercies made fresh every morning:

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.

Jesus, walks with us through all things – and is known to us in the breaking of bread.

(pastor may lift or touch the bread)

On the night of his arrest Jesus took bread and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, saying, "this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

(pastor may lift or touch the cup)

In the same way he took the cup, and having given thanks for it, he gave it to his disciples saying, "This is the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Drink from this, all of you, and remember me."

Loving God, we join with our sisters and brothers around the world in remembering Christ's sacrifice for us. It is through your goodness that we have this bread and juice to share. May we know your resurrecting presence and your saving grace, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(pastor may hold hands palms down and bless the bread and cup)

In the abundance of your many gifts, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and juice. Redeem, renew and reconnect us until we are made new, one with Christ and one with each other. Transform our daily bread into the bread of life, and make the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation. We pray in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

the bridge between the four actions in the Thanksgiving (taking and blessing) and Communion (breaking and giving)

BREAKING THE BREAD

(pastor breaks the bread in silence or while saying appropriate words)

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

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one loaf.

We drink this cup to remember,

Your love poured out for us and all the world.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

(you are invited to receive the elements in the communion set or dip the bread in the juice; please take a Lego piece as a sign of our connection)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

(the table is put in order/ elements are covered)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for all you offer us in this holy mystery.

May our lives show signs of your love,

may we believe in your forgiveness,

and may your grace find a home in our hearts.

This we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

God sends us forth into the loneliness of the world,

to embrace all the rejected and forgotten.

Jesus sends us forth into the bitterness around us,

to have all voices heard, all grief comforted.

The Spirit sends us forth

to carry peace and love to neighbors and strangers.

Go forth and be the change you wish to see in the world!

For service ideas on World Communion Sunday:

Intergenerational Liturgy for World Communion Sunday, Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Taylor, Eden Theological Seminary, Saint Louis © 2018, Faith Formation Ministry Team, UCC.

Lectionary Liturgies, World Communion Sunday, © 2016, Thom M. Shuman, Presbyterian Church (www.textweek.com),

Text this Week (www.textweek.com),

UMC Book of Worship.

Worship Ways (www.ucc.org),

Worship Planning (www.umcdiscipleship.com),

Worship Resources-British Methodist Church (www.methodist.org.uk/equallydifferent),

Weekly Worship-Church of Scotland (www.churchofscotland.org.uk)