

The Communion Liturgy

Invitation:

As we come to this table, we are reminded that this is not the table of this congregation, nor is it the table of The United Church of Canada, or any particular denomination. It is the table of Jesus Christ, the family feast of the whole people of God. All who seek to be nourished and sustained in the journey of faith and long to live justly and in peace with their neighbour, are welcome here. Let us eat and drink together for our strengthening in the faith, and for the sake of the world.

Call to Give Thanks (*Sursum Corda*):

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Thanksgiving (*Preface*):

Source and Sustainer of life,

we gather at this table to offer thanks,

and to taste afresh the wonder of a holy love.

In companionship with all creatures,

we are one in gratitude

for the gift and mystery of life,

and one in longing for a world reborn.

Creator and Friend, we praise you for your

presence in and with your creation,

ever drawing it toward healing and wholeness.

In our joy, you are the overflowing cup;

**in our need, you are the bread
by which we journey on.
With all who abide in your presence and care,
we lift our voices to sing:**

♪Song of Creation (Sanctus-Benedictus):VU 935
**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.**

Remembering Jesus at Table
(Institution Narrative):

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign
shown to us in Jesus at table:

**he shared food with followers and friends,
with saints and sinners,
with crowds of thousands on the hillside,
and a few friends in an upper room.**

**On the night before he died, he had supper with
his companions.**

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he
broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he
passed it among them, saying:

"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Prayer of Self-Giving (Anamnesis- Oblation)

Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus
Christ, we offer you our praise,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Affirmation of Memory and Hope

Great is the mystery of faith:

(Memorial Acclamation) VU 934

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Prayer for Transformation (Epiclesis)

We pray you, God of Love,
send your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here,
that we, and these gifts, touched by your Spirit,
may be signs of life and love to each other, and to all
the world

Remembering the Community (Intercessions)

At this time, we also remember all those with whom
you would have us share your feast.

for the nations as they strive for peace and
justice . . .

for the earth, and the fragile web of life we share . . .

for our families and friends

for all who are ill or alone . . .

all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .

We pray for your church and its varied ministries . . .

for the nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .

for the earth, and the fragile web of life we share . . .

for our families and friends

Concluding Praise (Doxology)

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most
holy, now and forever.

Prayer of Jesus (Lord's Prayer)

With Jesus, we pray together, singing:

Our Father, who art in Heaven.....

Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life, **whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.**"

Sharing of the Table

Responses when served:

The bread of life broken for you.

Amen. OR Thanks be to God.

The cup of blessing poured out for you.

Amen. OR Thanks be to God.

(Choir is invited down first. Then any who wish to remain seated for communion are served. You are invited to come forward for communion, standing in groups of 6 or so at the front.)

Communion by intinction: *Take your bread and dip it in the chalice. When all in the group are served and when you are ready you may return to your seats and the next group will come forward.)*

Prayer after Communion:

Eternal and gracious One, though we live in a world of need,

**here we have tasted your goodness and
hungered for a world more just.**

Though afflicted by brokenness and division,

here we have heard your call

to be a people of healing community.

Though daily we touch our limits,

**here we have received the fullness of your
grace.**

Send us forth, O God,

in faith, in hope, and in love. Amen.