

World Communion Sunday October 4, 2020

Communion Liturgy

AND THE TABLE WILL BE WIDE -Deacons

*And the table
will be wide.
And the welcome
will be wide.
And the arms
will open wide
to gather us in.
And our hearts
will open wide
to receive.*

*And we will come
as children who trust
there is enough.
And we will come
unhindered and free.
And our aching
will be met
with bread.
And our sorrow
will be met
with wine.*

*And we will open our hands
to the feast
without shame.
And we will turn
toward each other
without fear.
And we will give up
our appetite
for despair.
And we will taste
and know
of delight.*

*And we will become bread
for a hungry world.
And we will become drink
for those who thirst.
And the blessed
will become the blessing.
And everywhere
will be the feast.*

The Communion Prayer

Pastor: Let us gather around the table with the offering of bread and drink upon it and the promise of the Living Christ among us. This is the welcome table of God where all who seek to be at peace with their neighbor and all who seek the mercy of God in Christ are embraced. Come, for we are invited in to this holy mystery. Come.

People: We are ready!

Pastor: Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty.

People: We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come!

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took his authority as the Christ and offered the bread in thanksgiving and said . . .

People: "Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Pastor: In the same way, and by the same authority, Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said,

People: "Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in these our ordinary lives. May they be for us the very essence of the living Christ in our midst. Through the broken bread . .

People: We participate in the Body of Christ.

Pastor: Through the cup of blessing . . .

People: We participate in the new life Christ gives.

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

Sharing of the Elements

Bread: Take, eat and be filled with the presence of Christ.

Cup: Take and drink. Be filled with the living spirit of Christ's love.

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to find the lost and lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, and make the powerful care. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your good news in Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.