

Service of Communion

Adapted from the CRC's 2016 Liturgy

January 30, 2022

The Invitation

As we come to the table as repentant sinners, Christ wants to assure us of his forgiveness. As we come with our struggles, Christ wants to assure us of his living presence. As we come with our doubts, Christ wants to touch us with the flesh and blood reality of his life.

At the Lord's Supper we look back, remembering the whole story of our salvation; we look around, seeing that we are together members of the body of Christ; we look forward to the great banquet in God's coming kingdom; and we look up to our ascended Lord, who promises to feed us with his body and blood by the Holy Spirit.

The Thanksgiving

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Minister: With joy we praise you, gracious Father,
for you have created heaven and earth,
made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—
even when we fell into sin.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who by his life, death, and resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we join our voices
with all the saints and angels
and the whole creation
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Love Beyond Degree

Minister: We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before he suffered, gave us this memorial of his sacrifice, until he comes again. At his last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me." For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Prayer of Consecration

Minister: Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love.

Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray,

All: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

For the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen.

The Communion

Minister: Take, eat, remember, and believe that the body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

Take, drink, remember, and believe that the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.

Thanksgiving

All:

- ¹ Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ,

and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart.

Through Christ, our Lord, Amen.