

## **Holy Communion at Home Order of Service**

*In the first gathering of Christians after Pentecost, the early believers met and broke bread together, thereby signifying their union and equality. These meals of the church family were associated with the celebration of the Lord's Supper, which followed them. They were called agape, from the Greek word for love, that is for the highest type of spiritual love. Tonight's Communion service harkens back to those early days of the first followers of Christ, made possible now through modern means.*

### **PRELUDE**

#### **GATHERING**

In John 8:12, Jesus says: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **Amen**

*~The candles are lit*

We gather around our table in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Because Jesus assures us in Matthew 18:20:

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

**Christ is present with us this day, always, and everywhere. Amen**

#### **MUSIC**

*~ All sing This Little Light of Mine verse 1*

#### **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL AND OFFICERS**

*Installation begins with Introduction, Scripture readings, and continues:*

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:  
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

***Council members/officers: I will, and I ask God to help me.***

People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**Congregation: We will, and we ask God to help us.**

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

As we prepare for this great gift, let us confess our sins and hear the promise of forgiveness.

**Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen**

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 10:19-25**

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), <sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. This is the Word the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE GIFTS OF GOD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*...the thanksgiving continues led by Pastor and concludes with:*

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **TABLE GRACE**

Let us pray. The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as our Lord taught us:

~ *All say together* **The Lord's Prayer**

## **INSTRUCTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

At this time Pastor will take a moment to explain how the distribution of Holy Communion will take place in our homes. The explanation will conclude with the Invitation to Communion and then we will commune.

The elements of the Sacrament are offered with these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. *And* The blood of Christ, shed for you.

For children who do not commune, lay hand(s) on each child and offer this or another blessing:

“May the Holy Spirit dwell in you richly, with love, grace, and mercy.”

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION and DISTRIBUTION**

Let us share now in the heavenly banquet that has no end.

## **BLESSING**

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **MUSIC**

~ *All sing* **The Doxology**

## **BLESSING and SENDING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace and serve God and neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**