

## COMMUNION LITURGY FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy  
to give you thanks and praise,  
loving God, creator and sustainer of all life.  
You planted the first fields—  
wheat, barley, rice, and maize—  
and made us in your image to care for your creation.  
You fed your people in the wilderness  
with manna from heaven,  
leading them to a land of milk and honey.  
When human greed trampled the poor  
you spoke through the prophets,  
calling us to worship you with justice and peace.

Then, in the fullness of time,  
you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread,  
to lift up the oppressed and lowly  
and fill the hungry with good things.

Therefore we praise you,  
joining our voices with choirs of angels,  
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,  
and with all the faithful of every time and place  
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh.  
He taught us to share the abundance of your love,  
feeding the multitude, eating with sinners and strangers,  
offering his own body to save us,  
and pouring out his life for the world.  
When the risen Christ appeared to his disciples  
he made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Even now he sets the table for us,  
inviting all to taste and see that you are good.

*The words of institution may be spoken here or at the breaking of the bread.*

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus,  
on the night before he died, took bread,  
and after giving thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,  
we take from your creation this bread and this wine  
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,  
as we await the day of his coming.  
With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you  
to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
and one with all who share this meal,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be Christ's body in the world.

Keep us faithful to Christ's teaching and fellowship,  
to the breaking of bread and the prayers,  
sharing our goods with one another,  
and giving our possessions to those who are in need,  
so that all people may have their daily bread,  
this day and every day.

Just as the grain, once scattered across the hills,  
was gathered together in this loaf of bread,  
gather your people from the ends of the earth,  
so that we may feast with you in glory  
in the joy of your new creation.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honor and glory are yours, almighty God,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Because there is one loaf,  
we, many as we are, are one body;  
for it is one loaf of which we all partake.

*1 Corinthians 10*

When we break the bread,  
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

When we give thanks over the cup,  
is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**We give you thanks, eternal God,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament.  
Fill us with a hunger for justice  
and a thirst for what is right  
until all people may taste and see your goodness;  
through Jesus Christ, the bread of life.**

Prepared by David Gambrell, Associate for Worship, PC(USA)  
September 15, 2008