

## Celebration of the Lord's Supper

### Meaning of the Sacrament

Our Savior Jesus Christ has ordained and instituted this Holy Supper to nourish and sustain those who are born again and grafted into his family: his church. Christ has instituted an earthly and visible bread as the sacrament of his body and the cup as the sacrament of his blood.

**Just as truly as we take and hold the sacraments in our hands and eat and drink them in our mouths, by which our life is then sustained, so truly we receive into our souls, for our spiritual life, the true body and true blood of Christ, our only Savior. We receive these by faith, which is the hand and mouth of our souls.**

This banquet is a spiritual table at which Christ communicates himself to us with all his benefits.

**By the use of this holy sacrament we are moved to a fervent love of God and our neighbors.**

### Communion Prayer

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.**

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

**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!**

Most righteous God, we remember in this Supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world.

In the joy of his resurrection and in expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices. Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died!**

**Christ is risen!**

**Christ will come again!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord.

And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole Church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

### Words of Institution

*Worshippers are invited to come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the bread, dip it in the cup, and partake. If you are unable to easily come forward, a serving elder will come to you.*

### Anthem

*"The One"*

C. Courtney

... "the one who knows your name has bid you come..."

### Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

Brothers and sisters, since the Lord has now fed us at his Table, let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving! Bless the Lord, O my soul, **and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

**and do not forget all his benefits—**

who forgives all your iniquity,

**who heals all your diseases,**

who redeems your life from the Pit,

**who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins,

**nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

**so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

as far as the east is from the west,

**so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children,

**so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him,**

who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, and will also give us all things with him.

**Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise of the Lord, from this time forth forevermore. Amen.**