

## **Communion Liturgy**

Friends of the Lord Jesus Christ, the holy meal which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope.

We come to remember that our Lord Jesus Christ was sent by the Father into the world so that we may forever be in relationship with him. We come to have communion with this same Christ who has promised to be with us always, even to the end of the world. We come in hope, believing that this is just a preview of a greater feast where we will be united with those who have gone before us and we will see God face to face.

We know that this is a deep mystery, yet this is the center of our faith:

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

Jesus said, I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. Here is the bread of life given for us; let all who hunger come and eat. Here is the fruit of the vine, poured out for us; let all who thirst come and drink.

Sisters and brothers, 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!**

Living God, 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 unity in the faith and in the church worldwide. 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, Amen.

The Lord Jesus, the same night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: do this in remembrance of me." After that, he took the cup and lifted it, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. When you drink, do it in remembrance of me." The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ. The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Everyone is invited to this table. So come, if you hunger for a better world. Come, if you thirst for restoration and wholeness. And come, if you long to experience the presence of God in your life. Come when ready.

So take, eat and drink, remember and believe that the body and the blood of Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins.