

THE SERVICE FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Hear the promise of our Lord: Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.

Christ also says: I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.

I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. Hear also his invitation: Come to me, all who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Let us therefore come to our merciful and compassionate God in silent prayer, confessing our sins and failures, expressing our fears and anxieties, offering our needs, and affirming our hope in Jesus Christ our Savior.

SILENT PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for creating us in your image, for your goodness to us in times past and your love for us today and every day. Most of all, we thank you for coming to us in Jesus Christ our Lord, who took our human nature upon himself, sharing our loneliness, weakness, and suffering, that we might have eternal life. We recall with gratitude Christ's life, death, and resurrection for our salvation, and rejoice in his promise: I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup, that they may be for us the sacramental body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we and all your church may be nourished and built up in our faith in Christ.

Live in us, that the life we live here shall be lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us.

Amen.

Lord God, hear us as we 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

(All partake together, then join in silent prayer, after which the minister says:)

By your divine presence,
By the holy sacraments,
By all the merits of your life, sufferings, death, and resurrection,

Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God. Amen.

In the same way, after supper our Lord Jesus Christ took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

(All partake together, then join in silent prayer, after which the minister says:)

Christ, the Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant to us your peace. Amen.

As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death.

Until he comes.

Soloist: "We Who Here Together Are Assembled"

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace;

In the name of Jesus. Amen.