

Passing of the Peace

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: And Jesus took the bread.

People: Like the bread, we are taken, chosen by God.

Leader: Then he blessed it, giving thanks to God.

People: Like the bread, we are blessed, declared good by God.

Leader: He broke it.

People: Like the bread, we are broken, not whole but in pieces.

Leader: He gave it to his disciples.

People: Like the bread, we are given, gifts to each other.

Leader: And he said, "This is my body, given for you. This cup is God's new covenant, poured out for you."

People: We are Christ's body. Through him we are made one anew.

Serving of Communion

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we praise you for the gift of your Son, Jesus,
... who shares our life;
... who welcomes us;
... who leads us;
... who heals us;
... who saves us;
... who gives us new life.

With thanksgiving we took the bread and cup, as we participated in his life, death and resurrection.

Pour your Holy Spirit upon us, that this meal may be a communion in the body of Christ.

Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast.
Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love,
that we may abide always in your Spirit. AMEN

Litany

Leader: What we are about to do in our worship, gracious God, has many layers of meaning and many names.

People: But whatever we call it, its naming is summed up in the earliest creed of your Son's church, "Jesus Christ is Lord!"

Leader: We speak of the service of the Last Supper.

People: Rightly, because it was what proved to be his last supper with his disciples that the Master broke the bread and poured the wine.

Leader: We call our action the Lord's supper.

People: He was the Host; he was in charge; he would stay awake while the disciples fell asleep.

Leader: Our worship is known as Holy Communion.

People: It was his prayer that we should all be one in him, that our unity in him should transcend all barriers.

Leader: We call our Action the Eucharist, a thanksgiving feast.

People: It echoes with Passover joy, with grateful memories of your people, as deliverance from bondage; and it offers a foretaste of the feast, which your faithful people look forward to enjoying with your Son in heaven.

Leader: And sometimes we call this act of worship simply the sacrament, though we know that baptism, too, is a sacrament.

People: While baptism seals our membership in the church, this action is an oath of allegiance to our Lord, frequently repeated for our nurture and growth in faith.

Leader: Loving God, as we approach our Lord's Table, we pray for the unity and peace of his worldwide church.

People: And for the well-being and effective witness of our own congregation.

Leader: We gather around his table hungry for the Bread of Life.

People: Let him feed us and use us in his ongoing work. AMEN