

PRAYERS for a simple celebration of HOLY COMMUNION

Salutation and Collect for Purity

Grace be to you and peace, from him who is and who was and who is to come, from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Confession, and Absolution

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

A Silence

Father eternal, Giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light.

Minister: Christ has entered heaven itself, to appear now before God on our behalf. He was offered once to bear the burden of men's sins, and will appear a second time, sin done away, to bring salvation to those who are watching for him.

Your sins are forgiven for his sake. Amen.

Supplication

Father, help us who have been forgiven to be tender and compassionate towards those who are overtaken by temptation, considering how we ourselves have fallen in times past, and may yet fall again; and may we neither presume upon your forgiveness by

living carelessly, nor doubt it and be weighed down by guilt; for Jesus Christ's sake.

There follows the Collect for the Day

After the reading of Scripture, and an address if one be given, *Prayers of Intercession* are said extempore, concluding thus:

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of your Son; we pray you to accept and answer our petitions, not as we ask in ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Invitation

Jesus said: How blest are those who know their need of God;
the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

Come, not because you are strong, but because you are weak.

Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Consecration

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Minister:

With joy we give you thanks and praise, Almighty God, Source of all life and love. You have made both heaven and earth; your tender mercy is over all your works. You gave up your Son to death for our misdeeds and raised him to life to secure our justification. The universe itself is to enter upon the liberty and splendour of the children of God. Therefore with all the company of heaven, and with your people of all places and times we join in the unending hymn of praise:

All: *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.*

Minister:

Holy Lord God, by what we do here in remembrance of Christ, we celebrate his perfect sacrifice on the Cross, the offering of his body once and for all.

We proclaim his death.

We declare his resurrection.

We look for his coming in glory.

who on the night of his arrest, took bread and, after giving thanks to God, broke it and said: 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and said: 'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.'

Father, we pray that through your Holy Spirit this bread may be for us the body of Christ and this wine the blood of Christ. As we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. father, Son and Holy Spirit, one holy and eternal God, we give you praise and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Action

During supper Jesus *took bread*, and having said the blessing he *broke it* and gave it to them: 'Take this; this is my body.' Then he *took a cup*, and having offered thanks to God he gave it to them: 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, shed for many.'

Minister: Jesus, Lamb of God,

People: *have mercy on us.*

Minister: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

People: *have mercy on us.*

Minister: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

People: *give us your peace.*

Then the Minister himself receives in both kinds, and, in giving the bread, shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, given for you.

And, in giving the cup:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, shed for you.

Prayer after Communion

All: *We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all mankind.*

Minister: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we say,
All: OUR FATHER . . .

The Blessing

Go in peace.

The blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. Amen!

HUGH BAIN, Dunning