Communion Liturgy: In your desire for us

Written by Silvia Purdie

The Lord is here. **God's Spirit is with us.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

In this stillness we come, bringing our need, reaching out to you, Jesus Christ, We acknowledge you as creator of all, with the Father, with the Spirit, three in one, from before time a fellowship of infinite love. From you all things were made, you have formed us in your very image made to love and be loved. In your desire for us you chose a people, claimed the family of Abraham and Sarah for your own brought them into living Covenant, lasting relationship. When they broke this and rejected you, you sent prophets, and then, your own Son, born Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus showed us the Father, in all he said and did. Jesus died on the cross, destroying the power of sin and death. Jesus sent upon his people his very own Spirit to bring us close to God our Father to empower the work of God in the world, through us.

We praise you: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

On the night before he died, Jesus gathered his disciples close around him, and in that Upper Room spoke to them about his death and showed them as he took bread and broke it gave it to them saying This is a sign of my body broken for you, given for you

Then he took the cup, he gave thanks to God

and he declared it to be a sign of the Covenant remade, a New Covenant, sealed with his very own blood poured out for all for the forgiveness of sins and the restoring of the world.

We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, *have mercy on us.* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, *have mercy on us.* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, *grant us your peace.*

The gifts of God for the people of God. All are welcome to share.

Prayer after Communion

With grateful hearts we give you thanks and praise, O God for you are here, you are with us In our hunger you have met us at our point of need. In our pain and anxiety you have breathed your healing calm. In our emptiness you have filled us with yourself. Lord Jesus, to you be all glory, honour and praise here and everywhere, now and through eternity So send us out with grace and with courage sustain us with your peace. Amen.