**The Salvation Table: A Liturgy of Holy Communion**

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*(All stand)*

Welcome to this table, the feast of salvation

***We come around, we stand ready***

Jesus is our host, and Jesus is our food

***Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord***

Come in the name of Christ, who declares all are welcome

***Hosanna in the highest!***

All praise, all glory, all honour be to our God

***Who was, and is, and is to come. Alleluia! Amen.***

*(Please be seated)*

Jesus said: “It is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven,

for the bread of Godcomes from heaven and gives life to the world.”

With his disciples we say,

***Lord, give us this bread always.***

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” *(John 6:33-35)*

Jesus said: “I am the root and the descendant of David,

the bright morning star.”

The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’
And let everyone who hears say, ‘Come.’” *(Revelations 22:16-17)*

***Come, Lord Jesus***

We say together Psalm 23

***The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters, he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.***

***Even though I walk through the darkest valley,***

***I fear no evil, for you are with me;***

***your rod and your staff, they comfort me.***

***You prepare a table for me***

***in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;***

***my cup overflows.***

***Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.***

Friends, this is the table of salvation

Here we meet with the living God

in fellowship with one another,

in company with the Holy Spirit

to the glory of the Father, creator of all.

Here we are met by Jesus Christ, and fed from his own life.

This table has been prepared for you,

for your redemption,

for your healing.

This bread and this wine is a foretaste of glory,

a taste of heaven,

a promise of everlasting love.

This table is set for us in the presence of our enemies,

in the face of fear, loss and grief.

In the reality of darkness, Christ shines.

Into the despair of the world, Jesus gives himself for the world.

With humble and with grateful hearts,

we rest in the goodness of God

*(silence)*

we remember our Lord, Jesus Christ

we treasure all we know of him

*(silence)*

we confess our brokenness and our need

*(silence)*

we find ourselves with the disciples, that night in the Upper Room

with Jesus as he took bread, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying

“Take. Eat. This is my body, which is broken for you.

Share this bread and remember me.”

*(break the bread)*

And at the end of the meal, as he lifted the last cup

gave thanks, and declared

“This is the cup of salvation, the seal of new covenant,

my blood which is poured out for you,

for many, for forgiveness and new life.

Share this cup and remember me.”

*(silence)*

Friends, all are welcome to this symbolic feast,

for we are here at Christ’s invitation

to share in Christ’s restoration of the world.

The bread and the cups will be passed around where you are seated.

E te whanau a te Karaiti, we share Communion together.

*(elders are served, then the congregation)*

**Prayer after communion**

Bread is for breaking, wine is for pouring.

We who belong to Christ have been fed -

we participate in God’s salvation,

so we too are made whole to be broken for others,

so we too are poured out in love for the world.

We rise from the table of salvation

equipped and strengthened, made bold and given peace,

for our work every day, for our friends & neighbours,

for our struggles and achievements and for our rest.

We give thanks.

**Final hymn**

**Blessing**

The Lord has laid a table for you

in the presence of your enemies;
your head has been anointed; your cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life,
and may you dwell in the house of the Lord your whole life long.