

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to Communion

The invitation should be based on the Sermon and/or lectionary. For DOC style communion, there is a hymn that is sung by the congregation after the invitation. Example:

As Christians, we are tasked with picking up the cross and to carry our burdens. As Pastor Jeff said, it is a nasty job description. However, it's been said that a burden shared is a burden halved, which is echoed in Galatians 6:2. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. A strong community will do just that, share the burdens and the joys and the hopes and the dreams of all. In this place right now, we have such a community, and we can share with each other, whether we are members or friends or guests or anyone passing through. The communion of Christ is for the community of humanity. Let us celebrate together. Let us begin with song. Join me in singing hymn #609, "Take My Life" verses 1 and 2.

Words of Institution

Quote or paraphrase from one of the four scriptures (see "Words of Institution" online). Example:

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, 'Take, eat; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Matthew 26: 26-28)

Prayer of the Elder

Example:

Loving God, we gather at Christ's table to share in the sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation. We take up our own cross individually, and together we share our burdens. We do so to follow the most important commandments taught by Jesus. To love you, God, with all our heart, and to love each other as we love ourselves; to serve you, God, and to serve each other. Amen.

Sharing of the Elements

(To symbolize that together we are the Body of Christ, we eat the bread together. To remember the limitless love Jesus has for each one of us, we drink the cup as each receives.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

When Communion has been served, lead the congregation in the prayer found in the bulletin.