

*With hungry hearts and thirsty souls,  
longing to be satisfied with the finest food  
at the Banquet of the Lord.*

And so we honour You, O Christ, Lord of the Feast,  
for when your time came to face the cross,  
You gave us this meal to remember You,  
and the meaning of Your life and death.  
At supper, with Your friends, You took bread,  
and after You had given thanks, You broke it  
and gave it to them saying:

*Take this and eat it. This is my body, broken for You.*

After the meal, You took the cup, and once You had given thanks,  
You gave it to them saying:

*Take this and drink it. This is my blood poured out for You.*

And so, in memory of You, we eat and drink;

In thanksgiving for Your gift of life, we eat and drink;

In openness to Your grace, we eat and drink;

*And we will continually celebrate this meal,  
until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God. Amen.*

*Communion is shared.*

#### Closing Prayer

*We thank You, O God,*

for the nourishment and strength we have received at Your table.

*We thank You, O Christ,*

for the new life that we enjoy,

and which we now take into the world.

*We thank You, Holy Spirit,*

for feeding our souls with this simple meal,

and for equipping us to be Your hands to feed others.

*May Your grace, love and friendship surround us*

*and flow through us all*

*now and forever.*

*In the name of Christ. Amen.*



## A Liturgy for the Spiritual Feast

#### Call to Worship

All who are thirsty and all who are hungry, come!

Eat, drink and be filled;

Come! Feast at the table of God,

Without money and without cost;

Come and receive freely

the Living Water and the Bread of Life!

*Our souls are thirsty, O God, and we come;*

*Our spirits hunger, O Lord, and we come;*

*Feed us, nourish us and strengthen us;*

*Satisfy us with real food, and real drink;*

*Prepare for us a table, that we may always be fed  
by Your hand. Amen.*

#### Prayer of Praise

Life-Sustaining God,

Every living thing in the universe owes its life

to You;

All things, seen and unseen, have come into being

because of Your creative word;

*You deserve to be praised and honoured, O God,*

*For You have made all things well.*

Seeking and Loving God,

Your gift of life is ours to enjoy, also;  
You made us in Your image,  
You breathed the breath of life into each one of us;  
We live because You spoke our names.  
*You deserve to be praised and honoured, O God,  
For You have made us to be Your children.*  
Caring and Nurturing God,  
Your energising Spirit flows through every creature,  
And through each one of us;  
You have filled the world with Your Presence and Your Voice,  
You have filled our lives with Your compassion;  
And we are fed by Your bounty.  
*You deserve to be praised and honoured, O God,  
For Your abundance is always shared,  
and our souls are always fed by Your hand. Amen.*

#### Prayer of Confession

Such goodness is available to us, O God;  
The finest of foods, the richest of wines,  
to feed our souls; to nourish our spirits.  
Yet, we starve;  
We have chased after that which does not feed us;  
We have been blind to the blessings you provide;  
We have doubted our welcome at Your table;  
We have failed to take the time to enjoy Your feast.  
*Forgive us, Lord, and lead us back to Your open and bounteous table.*  
*Silent confession*  
*For the sake of Jesus Christ Who gave His life  
to make a place for us at the feast,  
Forgive us, cleanse us and restore us, O God.*  
*Amen.*  
*The Lord's Prayer.*

#### Statement of Faith

Let us affirm again what we believe:  
*We believe that God creates and sustains the life of the universe;  
We believe that in dying and rising,  
Jesus opened the doors to God's banquet,  
and welcomes all who will come;  
We believe that God's Spirit flows abundantly through our world,  
and nourishes the spirits of all who receive. Amen.*

Prayers of Request  
God of spirit-strengthening grace,  
We come to You to be fed once again,  
bringing our souls, our relationships and our lives;  
We grieve and need comfort,  
We are sick and need healing,  
We are broken and need wholeness.  
*Fill us, O Lord, with Your Spirit.*  
God of nation-changing love,  
We come to You to plead for our land,  
bringing its leaders, its communities and its people;  
We are afraid and need security,  
We are divided and need unity,  
We have dreams and need guidance.  
*Fill us, O Lord, with Your Spirit.*  
God of world-renewing mercy,  
We come to you to pray for our earth,  
bringing its conflicts, its cultures and its countries;  
We are fighting and need peace,  
We are different and need understanding,  
We have plenty and need to share.  
*Fill us, O Lord, with Your Spirit;  
Feed us with the truth and love and wisdom  
that will enable us to grow,  
And reflect more clearly the image of Christ.*  
*Amen.*

#### The Passing of the Peace

May the sustenance of God's peace remain with you.  
*And also with you.*  
*The peace is passed among all the worshippers.*

#### The Communion

We come to the table of Christ,  
*With gladness and thanksgiving,  
for the good things we find here.*  
We come to the table of Christ,  
*With praise and celebration,  
for the Kingdom that has welcomed us in.*  
We come to the table of Christ,