

Items needed – yellow caution tape

Communion Hymn – *Eat this Bread* (Chalice #414)

Eat this Bread

Taizé

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.*

Musician continues to underscore

Invitation to the Table

In the shelter of this church, there is no real risk in participating in this sacrament.
But there are other places in the world where it is not safe.
And, yet, people travel long and dangerous journeys,
cross boundaries and borders,
just to experience the healing and wholeness found in Christ Jesus.

Put yellow caution tape on floor so people have to cross it to get to communion

No matter who you are,
no matter where you are on the journey,
you are welcome at this table.
This feast is prepared for you,
and for everyone who needs the presence of Jesus.

So come,
 you who have been here often.
Come,
 you who haven't been in a while.
Come,
 come and take a symbolic journey across boundaries
 in solidarity with those for whom this sacrament is risky
 come and taste and see that the Lord is good.

Music ends

Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Let us pray.

We remember you, O God, creating the world
and blurring the boundaries between us and you.

Then we broke your heart when
we messed it up.

So we left the garden to be on our own,
yet you keep trying to bring us back to you.

We give you thanks that you called Abraham and Sarah
to leave their homeland
traveling long distances
crossing boundaries
to get to the land you were giving them.

You took your people and, through Moses,
led them out of captivity into freedom
crossing the boundary of the Red Sea,
and later crossing the Jordan River
into the Promised Land.

You were with your people as they were marched into exile
crossing boundaries into a foreign land.
You taught them how to worship you in a strange place,
and in time you led them back home again,
home to recommit themselves to living in your ways.

And so with all our ancestors of faith
in ever time and place, we proclaim,
repeating after me:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord!

God of power and might.

The whole world is filled with your glory.

Hosanna in the highest...

...in the widest

...in the deepest

...core of our being

Musician begins to underscore "Eat this Bread"

Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Blessed is your Son, Jesus,
who became a refugee and was forced to flee into Egypt with his parents.

Blessed is Jesus who crossed boundaries
boundaries of custom and place to
preach and heal
and bring life and wholeness to the world.

Blessed is Jesus who sought to eliminate the boundaries
that separate us
and worked to bring us together in the Kingdom of God.

And blessed is Jesus who broke through the boundaries
that separate life and death
so that we all can have life eternal
with you, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit,
one God,
forevermore.
Amen.

Everyone sings once

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Musician continues to underscore

Words of Institution

On the night in which he gave himself up for love and justice,
He sat down at the table with those that had become family.
At that table were those who adored him and those that would betray him.
He knew this. And he gave bread to all anyway.
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
invited all to drink from this cup of love, this cup of suffering—
the sign of the covenant of relationship.
“Whenever you gather as family around tables,
whenever you strive to overcome the adversity of being human together,
whenever you need to remember I am always with you, do this.”

Prayer of Consecration

I invite you to raise your hands in the ancient posture of blessing, as we pray,

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Let them be for us the body and blood of Christ so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, liberated by his witness, passion and life. Be with us, Holy Spirit, fill us so you can move through us. Amen.

Everyone sings once

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Music ends.

Instructions for Communion (if needed)

In addition to communion this morning, we will also be offering prayers and anointing for healing. After you have taken the bread and cup, if you wish healing prayers, see me in the corner.

Come, cross the boundary and find Jesus, find healing.
Come, for all things are ready

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Use whatever music suits the style of communion.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

Notes:

The majority of this liturgy is original material written by the Rev. Jeff Lukens in 2018. Some of the phrasing in the words of institution and prayer of consecration were borrowed with permission from Dr. Marcia McFee of the Worship Design Studio.