

An Agape Meal Celebration for Home Use

Gather in the Name of the Lord

Leader Peace be to this house and all who dwell in it.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself know to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Leader: Let us now recite ***Christ our Passover***

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;*
Therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil,*
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;*
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all;*
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin,*
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead,*
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death,*
By a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die,*
So also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

A Reading from **Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians** (11: 23-26)

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sacramental Responses

Leader While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

People **We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.**

Leader Let our lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

People **The love we share becomes bread for the world.**

Blessings over food

(These blessings are appropriate for use by households) The Leader says the blessings:

Over Bread

Blessed are you, O Lord our God; you bring forth bread from the earth and make the risen Lord to be for us the Bread of life: Grant that we who daily seek the bread which sustains our bodies may also hunger for the food of everlasting life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Over Wine

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of the fruit of the vine: Grant that we who share this wine, which gladdens our hearts, may share for ever the new life of the true Vine, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Time of Quiet Meditation

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Let us recite together Psalm 136

We give thanks to you, O God
for your love endures forever.

You alone do great wonders.
It was your wisdom that made the skies
and fixed the earth firmly on the seas,
for your love endures forever.

It was you who made the great lights,
the sun to illumine the day,
the moon and the stars to guard the night,
for your love endures forever.

The first-born of the Egyptians you smote;
you brought Israel out from their midst.
You divided the Red sea in two.
You let Israel pass through
and drowned Pharaoh and his force in the sea,
for your love endures forever.

You remembered us in our distress
and rescued us from our oppressors.
You provide for all living creatures.
To you we give thanks,
for your love endures forever.

Blessing, glory, and honor
be to God again and again.
Praise and thanksgiving forever
be to the Eternal.
Amen.

Prayer for ourselves and our community
(Prayer by Richard Rohr)

O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. [Here we invite your own intentions.] Knowing you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God. Amen.

Benediction

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort our hearts and establish them in every good work and word. **Amen.**