

Prayers for Communion

Our Father, who art in heaven, Holy be your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name through Christ, our Lord.

Praise God

1. Father, it is our duty and salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. He is the Word through whom you made the universe, the Savior you sent to redeem us. By the power of the Holy Spirit he was born in the flesh. For our sake he opened his arms on the cross; he put an end to death and revealed the resurrection. In this he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people. And so we join the angels and saints in proclaiming your glory!
2. Father in heaven, it is right that we should give you thanks and glory: you are the one God, living and true. Through all eternity you live in unapproachable light. Source of life and goodness, you have created all things, to fill your creatures with every blessing and lead all men to the joyful vision of your light. Countless hosts of angels stand before you to do your will; they look upon your splendor and praise you, night and day. United with them, and in the name of every creature under heaven, we too praise your glory as we say: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
3. God our Father, you have brought us here together so that we can give you thanks and praise for all the wonderful things you have done. We thank you for all that is beautiful in the world and for the happiness you have given us. We praise you for daylight and for your word which lights up our minds. We praise you for the earth, and all the people who live on it, and for our life which comes from you. We know that you are good. You love us and do great things for us. So we say together: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Father, you are always thinking about your people; you never forget us. You sent your Son Jesus, who gave his life for us and who came to save us. He cured sick people; he cared for those who were poor and wept with those who were sad. He forgave sinners and taught us to forgive each other. He loved everyone and showed us how to be kind. He took children in his arms and blessed them. God our Father, all over the world your people praise you. So now we pray with the whole church.
4. We give thanks to you, Holy Father, for your holy name which you made to dwell in our hearts and for the knowledge, faith, and immortality which you made known to us through Jesus your Servant. To you be the glory forever. You, Lord Almighty, created

all things on account of your name, and you gave food and drink to human beings for their refreshment, in order that they might give thanks to you, but you graciously bestowed on us spiritual food and drink and life eternal through your Servant. Above all, we give thanks to you, because you are mighty. To you be the glory forever. Remember, Lord, your church to deliver her from every evil and to perfect her in your love, and gather her that you have sanctified from the four winds into your kingdom which you prepared for her. Because the power and the glory are yours forever. Let grace come and this world pass away. Hosanna to the God of David. If any is holy, let him come. If any one is not, let him repent. Amen.

5. Leader: God, our loving Father, we are glad to give you thanks and praise because you love us. We sing your praise:

All: Glory to God in the highest.

L: Because you love us, you gave us this great and beautiful world. With Jesus sing your praise:

A: Glory to God in the highest.

L: Because you love us, you sent Jesus your Son to bring us to you and to gather us around him as the children of one family. With Jesus we sing your praise:

A: Glory to God in the highest.

L: For such great love, we thank you with the angels and heavenly hosts as they praise you and sing:

A: Glory to God in the highest.

Accept our Gifts (the bread and wine are God's gifts to us)

6. We come to you, Father, with praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ your Son. Through him we ask you to accept and bless these gifts we offer you in sacrifice. We offer them for the holy work of the church. Watch over it, Lord, and guide it; grant it peace and unity throughout the world. Remember, Lord, your people. Remember all of us gathered here before you. You know how firmly we believe in you and dedicate ourselves to you. We offer you this sacrifice of praise for ourselves and those who are dear to us. We pray to you, our living and true God, for our redemption. Father, accept this offering from your whole family. Count us among those you have chosen. Bless and approve our offering; make it acceptable to you, an offering in spirit and in truth. Let this become for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Lord.
7. Lord, you are holy indeed, the fountain of all holiness. Let your Spirit come upon these gifts to make them holy, so that they may become for us the truth of our Savior.

8. Father, you are holy indeed, and all creation rightly gives you praise. All life, all holiness comes from you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by the working of the Holy Spirit. From age to age you gather a people to yourself, so that from east to west a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name. And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they give the life of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate this communion.
9. Father, we acknowledge your greatness: all your actions show your wisdom and love. You formed people in your own image and set them over the whole world to serve you, their creator, and to rule over all creatures. Even when they disobeyed you and lost your friendship you did not abandon them to the power of death, but helped all people to seek and find you. Again and again you offered a covenant to humanity, and through the prophets taught them to hope for salvation. Father, you so loved the world that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. He was conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is a person like us in all things but sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation, to prisoners – freedom, and to those in sorrow – joy. In fulfillment of your will he gave himself up to death; but by rising from the dead, he destroyed death and restored life. And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him, he sent the Holy Spirit from you, Father, as his first gift to those who believe, to complete his work on earth and bring us the fullness of grace. Father, may this Holy Spirit sanctify these offerings as we celebrate the great mystery which he left us as an everlasting covenant.
10. Father, we celebrate the memory of Christ, your Son. We your people recall his passion, his resurrection from the dead, and his ascension into glory; and from the many gifts you have given us we offer to you, God of glory and majesty, this holy and perfect sacrifice: the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. Look with favor on these offerings and accept them as once you accepted the gifts of your servant Abel, the sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith, and the bread and wine offered by your priest Melchizedek. Almighty God, we pray that you may take this sacrifice to your altar in heaven. Then, as we receive from this altar our salvation, let us be filled with every grace and blessing. Through Jesus Christ you give us all these gifts. You fill them with life and goodness. You bless them and make them holy.

Remembering

11. Jesus always loved those who were his own in the world. When the time came for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, he showed the depth of his love. While they were at supper, he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take this, all of you; and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you.” In the same way, he took the cup, filled with wine. He gave thanks to you, and giving the cup to his disciples, said, “Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.” Let us proclaim the mystery

of faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again *or* Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus come in glory *or* When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory *or* Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free. You are the Savior of the World.

12. You commanded us to take this bread and wine in order that at the same time we might give thanks to you for having created the world with all things in it for the sake of human beings, for having freed us from the wickedness in which we were, and for having completely destroyed the principalities and powers by the one who accepted suffering according to your will.

Unity

13. We give thanks to you, our Father, for the holy vine of David, your servant, which you made known to us through Jesus, your Servant. To you be the glory forever. We give thanks to you, our Father, for the life and knowledge which you made known to us through Jesus, your Servant. To you be the glory forever. As this broken bread was scattered upon the mountains and being gathered together became one loaf, so may your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Because the glory and the power are yours through Jesus Christ forever.
14. In memory of his death and resurrection, we offer you, Father, this life-giving bread, this saving cup. We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. May all of us who share in the body and blood of Christ be brought together in unity by the Holy Spirit. Lord, remember your church throughout the world; make us grow in love together. Give us the light of your presence. Have mercy on us; make us worthy to share eternal life with your people who have done your will throughout the ages. May we praise you in union with them, and give you glory through your Son, Jesus Christ.
15. Father, calling to mind the death your Son endured for our salvation, his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven, and ready to greet him when he comes again, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice. Look with favor on your church's offering, and see Christ whose death has reconciled us to you. Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ. May he make us an everlasting gift to you and enable us to share in the inheritance of your people. Lord, may this sacrifice, which has made our peace with you, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim church on earth. In mercy and love unite all your children wherever they may be. We hope to enjoy forever the vision of your glory, through Christ our Lord, from whom all good things come.
16. Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. We recall Christ's death, his resurrection, and his ascension to your right hand; and, looking forward to his coming in

glory, we offer you this acceptable sacrifice which brings salvation to the whole world. Lord, look upon this sacrifice which you have given to your church; and by your Holy Spirit, gather all who share his one bread and one cup into the one body of Christ, a living sacrifice of praise. Remember those who take part in this offering, those here present and all your people, and all who seek you with a sincere heart. Father, in your mercy grant also to us, your children, to enter into our heavenly inheritance. Then, in your kingdom, freed from the corruption of sin and death, we shall sing your glory with every creature through Christ our Lord, through whom you give us everything that is good.

17. Through him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.
18. We do this in memory of Jesus Christ, our Passover and our lasting peace. We celebrate his death and resurrection and look for the coming of that day when he will return to give us the fullness of joy. Therefore we offer you, God ever faithful and true, the sacrifice which restores man to your friendship. Father, look with love on those you have called to share in the one sacrifice of Christ. By the power of your Holy Spirit make them one body, healed of all division. Keep us all in communion of mind and heart with our brothers and sisters. Help us to work together for the coming of your kingdom, until at last we stand in your presence to share the life of the saints, in the company of your people who live in your mercy. Then, freed from every shadow of death, we shall take our place in the new creation and give you thanks through Christ, our risen Lord.
19. Lord our God, your Son has entrusted to us this pledge of his love. We celebrate the memory of this death and resurrection and bring you the gift you have given us, the sacrifice of reconciliation. Therefore, we ask you, Father, to accept us, together with your Son. Fill us with his Spirit through our sharing in this meal. May he take away all that divides us. May this Spirit keep us always in communion with all of your people. Father, make your church throughout the world a sign of unity and an instrument of your peace. You have gathered us here around the table of your Son, in fellowship with each other. In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus Christ the Lord.
20. Yes, Lord, you are holy; you are kind to us and to all. For this we thank you. We thank you above all for your Son, Jesus Christ. You sent him into this world because people had turned away from you and no longer loved each other. He opened our eyes and our hearts to understand that we are brothers and sisters and that you are Father of us all. He brought us the good news of life to be lived with you forever. He showed us the way to that life, the way of love. He himself has gone that way before us. He now brings us together to one table and asks us to do what he did. Father, we ask you to bless these gifts of bread and wine and make them holy.
21. It is truly right to give you thanks, it is fitting that we sing of your glory, Father of infinite goodness. Through the gospel proclaimed by your Son you have brought together in a single church people of every nation, culture, and tongue. Into it you breathe the power

of your Spirit, that in every age your children may be gathered as one. Your church bears steadfast witness to your love. It nourishes our hope for the coming of your kingdom and is a sure sign of the lasting covenant which you promised us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore heaven and earth sing forth your praise while we, with all the church, proclaim your glory without end.

22. Almighty and ever-living God, who by your holy Son taught us how to pray, we humbly ask you to mercifully receive our prayers. We ask you to inspire continually the church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord. Grant, that all who do confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. To all your people give your heavenly grace – especially to this congregation here – that, with a humble and reverent heart, we may hear and receive your holy Word; truly serving you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives. We bless your holy Name, and out of your goodness we ask that we can take part in your kingdom.

Reconciliation

23. Father, all powerful and ever living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise. You never cease to call us to a new and more abundant life. God of love and mercy, you are always ready to forgive. We sin, and you invite us to trust in your mercy. Time and time again we broke your covenant, but you did not abandon us. Instead, through your Son, Jesus our Lord, you bound yourself even more closely to the human family by a bond that can never be broken. Now is the time for your people to turn back to you and to be renewed in Christ your Son, a time of grace and reconciliation. You invite us to serve the family of mankind by opening our hearts to the fullness of your Holy Spirit. In wonder and gratitude, we join our voices with the choirs of heaven to proclaim the power of your love and to sing of our salvation in Christ.
24. Father, all powerful and ever living God, we praise and thank you through Jesus Christ our Lord for your presence and action in the world. In the midst of conflict and division, we know it is you who turn our minds to thoughts of peace. Your Spirit changes our hearts: enemies begin to speak to one another, those who were estranged join hands in friendship, and nations seek the way of peace together. Your Spirit is at work when understanding puts an end to strife, when hatred is quenched by mercy, and vengeance gives way to forgiveness. For this we should never cease to thank and praise you. We join with all the choirs of heaven as they sing forever to your glory.
25. Father, from the beginning of time you have always done what is good for man so that we may be holy as you are holy. Look with kindness on your people gathered here before you; send forth the power of your Spirit so that these gifts may become for us the body and blood of your beloved Son, Jesus the Christ, in whom we have become your sons and daughters. When we were lost and could not find the way to you, you loved us more than ever; Jesus, your Son, innocent and without sin, gave himself into our hands and was nailed to a cross. Yet before he stretched out his arms between heaven and earth in the

everlasting sign of your covenant, he desired to celebrate this feast in the company of his disciples.

26. God of power and might, we praise you through your Son, Jesus Christ, who comes in your name. He is the Word that brings salvation. He is the hand you stretch out to sinners. He is the way that leads to your peace. God our Father, we had wandered far from you, but through your Son you have brought us back. You gave him up to death so that we might turn again to you and find our way to one another. Therefore, we celebrate the reconciliation Christ has gained for us. We ask you to sanctify these gifts by the power of your Spirit, as we now fulfill your Son's command.
27. God our Father, we remember with joy all that Jesus did to save us. In this holy sacrifice, which he gave as a gift to his church, we remember his death and resurrection. Father in heaven, accept us together with your beloved Son. He willingly died for us, but you raised him to life again. We praise you, we bless you, we thank you. Lord our God listen to our prayer. Send the Holy Spirit to all of us who share this meal. May this Spirit bring us closer together in the family of the church and in Jesus who lives now with you and glory and also here on earth among us. We praise you, we bless you, we thank you. You have called us to receive the body and blood of Christ at this table and to be filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit. Through this sacred meal give us strength to please you more and more. Help all who follow Jesus to work for peace and to bring happiness to others. We praise you, we bless you, we thank you.

Salvation

28. It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, creator of the world and source of all life. You never abandon the creatures formed by your wisdom, but remain with us and work for our good even now. With mighty hand and outstretched arm you led your people, Israel, through the desert. By the power of the Holy Spirit you guide your pilgrim church today as it journeys along the paths of time to the eternal joy of your kingdom, through Christ our Lord. May we follow your paths in faith and hope and radiate our joy and trust to all the world.
29. It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father of holiness, Lord of heaven and earth, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through your eternal Word you created all things and govern their course with infinite wisdom. In the Word made flesh you have given us a mediator who has spoken your words to us and called us to follow him. He is the way that leads to you, the truth that sets us free, the life that makes our joy complete. Through your Son you gather into one family men and women created for the glory of your name, redeemed by the blood of the cross, and sealed with the Holy Spirit. And so we praise your mighty deeds and join the angels in heaven as we proclaim your glory without end.

30. It is truly right to give you thanks, it is fitting that we offer you praise, Father of mercy, faithful God. You send Jesus Christ your Son among us as redeemer and Lord. He was moved with compassion for the poor and the powerless, for the sick and the sinner; he made himself neighbor to the oppressed. By his words and actions he proclaimed to the world that you care for us as a father cares for his children.

31. Almighty Father, by our sharing in this mystery enliven us with your Spirit and conform us to the image of your Son. Strengthen the bonds of communion with your holy people. Keep us alert in faith to the signs of the times and eager to accept the challenge of the gospel. Open our eyes to the needs of all; inspire us with words and deeds to comfort those who labor and are burdened; keep our service of others faithful to the example and command of Christ. Open our hearts to the needs of all humanity, so that sharing their grief and anguish, their joy and hope, we may faithfully bring them the good news of salvation and advance together on the way to our kingdom. Let your church be a living witness to truth and freedom, to justice and peace, that all people may be lifted up by the hope of a world made new. Unite us in love, holy and faithful God.

32. You gave directions to your disciples to offer you the first fruits from your creation, not as if you are in need but so that we would not be unfruitful nor ungrateful. You took bread which is from created things and gave thanks, saying, "This is my body." And the cup likewise, which is out of the created things to which we belong, you confessed to be your blood, and you taught the new way of the new covenant. We the church, receiving this from the apostles, offer in the whole world to you, who provides us with the means of sustenance and life, the first fruits of your own gifts in the new covenant.