## Two Communion Liturgies

### A Communion Liturgy for the Whole People of God

*by Alydia Smith*

God is with us!

**We are not alone!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love,

you are beyond complete knowledge,

above perfect description.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love,

you are creative and self-giving,

generously moving.

In all the near and distant corners of the universe.

nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

(based on **A Song of Faith**)

Even when we turn away from you, you are with us;

your presence never fails us,

your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ,

eternal as your love, our bond to one another.

We rejoice with all your people of every time and place,

and with angels and archangels,

to proclaim the glory of your name:

*Sanctus and Benedictus* (*More Voices* 203)

Holy, holy, holy are you.

Holy, holy, blessed are you.

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ,

who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers:

loving what he loved

living what he taught, and

striving to be his faithful servants

in our time and place.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises,

and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

On the night before Jesus died,

he took a loaf of bread,

gave thanks, broke it, and said,

“Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying,

“This is the new covenant, remember me.”

We do remember.

We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again.

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

*Memorial Acclamation*(sung to *More Voices* 204)

Christ has died

Christ will arise

Christ will come to us again

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit,

we call on you to transform these familiar things,

as you continually transform the world around us.

Bless this bread and this cup,

the wheat and the grape,

the farmer and the harvest,

the seed and the sower.

So that in the sharing of these simple elements in community,

we may taste and see your goodness,

so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory is yours, God most holy,

now and forever.

*Great Amen*(sung to *More Voices* 225)

#### Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Cup

The body of Christ,

**the bread of life.**

The lifeblood of Christ,

**the cup of blessing.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### Sharing the Meal

***Anthem*** (choir)

*Choir Anthem/ Music*

#### Prayer after Communion

**Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.**

**We are fed by your love;**

**we are strengthened by your life.**

**We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts.**

**We are now commissioned to:**

**feed as we have been fed,**

**forgive as we have been forgiven,**

**love as we have been loved.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Amen.**

### Worldwide Communion Sunday Liturgy

*by Alydia Smith*

God be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts;

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God!

**It is right to give God our thanks and praise!**

Though creation sometimes weeps,

**we wait lovingly for you, God.**

For you created the heavens, earth, and all that is in them:

you cast sunbeams, open flowers, and feed insects.

You are beyond the galaxies, under the oceans, and inside each grain of wheat.

You could sustain all of your creation,

**but you will not, without us.**

Thank-you for the wonders of creation and for your great trust in us.

Though humanity sometimes weeps,

**we wait lovingly for you, God.**

For you smiled on an outcasted Hagar, blessing her descendants,

you guided the doubtful Israelites, leading them to freedom,

you spoke through the Judges and the Prophets, providing words of wisdom,

you lived among us as a teacher, healer, and friend, giving us a sacred path to follow.

You could have made us self-sustaining,

**but you did not, your love sustains us.**

Thank you for the worldwide fellowship of disciples,

who faithfully attempt to share your love with all of creation.

**Sanctus** (*sung*) “Holy, holy, holy” (*Voices United* 944; note Spanish translation)

In Jesus, love incarnate,

you provide us all we need for each day:

his words comfort the weary;

his actions challenge the contented;

his touch heals the sick;

his presence feeds the deepest hunger in our souls.

In Jesus and in his feast

you provide for us the sustenance we need to respond to the cries of creation.

The bread of life,

**nourishes our deprieved bodies.**

The cup of blessings,

**revives our thirsty souls.**

The gathered community,

**strengthens our growing faith.**

**Memorial Acclamation** (*sung*) “Christ has died. Christ is risen.” (*More Voices* 207)

Though the church sometimes weeps,

**we wait lovingly for you, God.**

For centuries, Christians of different customes have gathered to commune with you and each other through the sharing of this feast.

**In their partaking you have been with them,**

**just as you are with us now.**

And so we join with our siblings around the world by remembering that

on the night in which Jesus was betrayed,

he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

“Take eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people

for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.”

God, we remember and give thanks for your Son,

and we ask that you bless and pour your spirit on these simple things, bread and wine:

**Make this broken bread whole in our taking.**

**Make this full cup overflow in our sharing.**

With these elements nourish and sustain us,

our way, our truth, our life;

our Creator, our Redemer, our Sustainer.

Praise be to you, now, tomorrow, and forever.

**Amen** (*sung*) (*More Voices* 225)

*Alydia Smith*