

**A CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**  
**Liturgy C (4/1/06)**  
**Eucharistic Circle at Pilgrim Place<sup>i</sup>**

***LITURGY OF THE WORD***

**PREPARATION IN SILENCE**

*The community gathers in silence, sitting around the table. The congregation is invited to remain seated throughout the service, until the time of communion.*

**GATHERING**

*Presider:* Blessed be the name of God now and forever.  
From the rising of the sun to its setting,

the name of God is to be praised.      Psalm 113:2-3

*The cantor leads the sung response (see attached music supplement).*

*The Presider announces the theme of the liturgy  
and then invites the community to a time of prayer, saying:*

God be with you;

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

- *a time of silence is kept* -

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**. . . Amen.**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Cantor* : Let us ask for openness to the Word of God as we sing:

&& insert A music

## **THE LESSON**

*The Lector offers a lesson according to the theme of the day, followed by a brief invitation to a time of silent reflection and prayer.*

## **SILENT REFLECTION**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*The Lector introduces the prayers of petition, intercession, and thanksgiving --for persons, communities, the world and the church. The prayer concludes with a confession of sin and an assurance of forgiveness.*

## **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

### ***Taking***

*As the table is prepared, the Cantor leads:*

&& insert B music

*Presider:* This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Come from the East and the West, from the North and the South, and gather about Christ's Table.

Living God, we bless you for this bread and cup, for this company of Christ, and for all that you have given us. Bless us with your grace that we may celebrate this Eucharist with joy.

**People:** In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the Risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

*Blessing*

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*Presider:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to God.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to God Most High.

*People:* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* We give you praise and thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for calling forth the creation and shaping us from its common clay by the breath of your being.

*People:* **You know us, and so we live.  
You love us, and so we are your people.**

*Presider:* Blessed are you, O God, our Mother and our Father, for giving us this day and this hour.

Blessed are you in all the things you have made:  
in plants and in animals and in all the sisters and the brothers,  
the wonders of your hand.

*People:* **Blessed are you for the food we eat:  
for bread and wine and for laughter in your presence.  
Blessed are you for giving us  
eyes to see your goodness in the things you have made,  
ears to hear your word,  
hands that we may touch and bless and share.**

*Presider:* We give you thanks that, having made all things, you still keep them and love them. We remember that from the beginning we did not trust you when you called us “good.” In our arrogance, we followed our own will and sought to hide from you.

*People:* **But you did not abandon us to our isolation and despair.  
You sent us your servant Jesus, baptized him in your  
Spirit.**

*Presider:* Healing, teaching, and sharing table with all manner of persons, Jesus proclaimed your love for all people and called us forth to be ourselves.

And so, with all your creation, we praise you through Jesus Christ our brother.

*Cantor leads:*

Insert C Music

Holy are you and holy is your child Jesus. [*Here words appropriate to the day or season may be added by the presider, or: By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through his resurrection, receiving his promise to be with us always in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.*]

We thank you that on the night before he died for us, he gathered his friends around him for a meal, took bread and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take and eat: This is my Body, given for you. Do this remembrance of me."

We bless you that when supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, shared it with them saying, "Drink from this, all of you, for this cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, remembering the cross, the tomb, and the resurrection, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Cantor leads:*

&& insert D

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of bread. Pour out your Spirit on us and on these gifts that they may be for us the Body and Blood of Christ that we may be the Body of Christ for others. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation..

***People:* In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet which you have prepared from the foundation of the world.**

Through Christ. with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise now and for endless ages,

&& insert E music

*Lector:* And now, in a barely audible way, so that no one's voice may overwhelm the heart language of another, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us, using the words that are most meaningful to us.

- *The "Lord's Prayer"* -

### ***Breaking***

*Presider:* We are one bread, one body. Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one in Christ, whose body we are.

- *as the bread is broken by the presider, we pray:*

***ALL:* Be present, O Jesus,**

**and make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread.**

## INVITATION

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the people of God.  
Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey of faith,  
know that you are welcome at this table to share in the bread and wine made holy.

### *Sharing*

## COMMUNION

*Several people serve a portion of the consecrated bread and offer the cup at one or more stations or at people's places.*

*After communion, a suitable **time of silence** is kept.*

*Then, together, we offer the final prayer of thanksgiving.*

*Presider:* Let us pray.

**ALL:** Bountiful God, we thank you for your blessing which we have received in this gathering. Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, that we may serve the world in Christ's name.

## SENDING FORTH

*Presider:* Send forth your Spirit, O God.

**People:** Renew the face of the earth.

*Presider:* Hear our prayer.

**People:** Thanks be to God!

*Cantor leads:*

*&& insert F*

*The Presider invites all to greet one another with a sign of the Peace of Christ.*

## PASSING THE PEACE

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Note: the committee of five should review this section to see if you wish to make any revisions.

In keeping with the custom of the early church, you are invited to take a piece of bread to anyone prevented from attending this Eucharist. A plastic bag will be available at the table.

The modest expenses of these services for Communion elements and printing the liturgy are supported by the offerings of those who attend. We invite you to use the offering baskets at the doors from time to time..

We are wanting to expand the cadre of folk who provide leadership in the Eucharistic Circles. If you are open to serving as a *lector* (responsible for the scripture reading and sometimes for a very brief spoken reflection, and for leading the prayers of the people), cantor (who leads the singing), Communion minister (serving bread, wine, or grape juice), Coordinator of the Month (taking care of logistical preparations for two services), or Presider (someone who is authorized to preside at the Lord's Table in his or her own church, and who will lead the liturgy in use in the Eucharistic Circle), please speak to David Jamieson or Judy O'Neill.

***Please leave this order of worship on your chair as you leave.***

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<sup>1</sup> As used by a Eucharistic Circle at Pilgrim Place, Claremont, California. Incorporating the work of several pilgrims including Tom Ambroggi, Don Chatfield, Eva Fleischner, and Dwight W. Vogel.