

## The Lord's supper: a simple pattern

*This pattern is a short form of the Lord's Supper for use in Sunday worship, or on other occasions such as with those who are sick.*

*In the gathered worship of the church the Lord's Supper will be preceded by prayer, praise and the preaching of the word. On other occasions, the elements having been prepared, the minister may begin the service with an invitation, beginning with words of Scripture such as*

## Gospel Words

Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking;  
if you hear my voice and open the door,  
I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.

God proves his love for us in  
that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

*John 6.35*

*Revelation 3.20 Romans 5.8*

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;  
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For  
my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Matthew 11.28–30*

## Invitation to the Table

Come to this table, not because you must but because you may,  
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.  
Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but  
because you need mercy and help.  
Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.  
Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.  
Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body.

## Prayer

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are 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. **Amen.**

*Fellowship news may now be shared, prayers for the church family offered  
and new members received.*

## Institution

*The minister may lift, or point to, the bread and the wine when they are  
mentioned in the words of institution.*

The apostle Paul tells us of the institution of the Lord's Supper: 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 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.

*1 Corinthians 11.23–26*

## Thanksgiving

*An extempore prayer of thanksgiving should be offered or a prayer such as*

Loving God,  
we praise and thank you  
for your love shown to us in Jesus Christ.

We thank you for his life and ministry,  
announcing the good news of your kingdom  
and demonstrating its power  
in the lifting of the downtrodden,

and the healing of the sick,  
and the loving of the loveless.  
We thank you for his sacrificial death upon the cross for the redemption of the world,  
and for your raising him to life again,  
as a foretaste of the glory we shall share.

*The Lord's Supper 15*

We give you thanks for this bread and wine, symbols of our world  
and signs of your transforming love.  
Send your Holy Spirit, we pray,

that we may be renewed  
into the likeness of Jesus Christ  
and formed into his Body.  
This we pray in his name and for his sake. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer may be said.*

## The Breaking of Bread

*The bread may now be lifted and broken with the words*

Jesus said, 'This is my body which is for you; do this in memory of me'.

## Sharing the Bread

*When the minister has broken the bread and placed a portion on each plate,  
the bread shall be distributed with words such as*

Take this in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

### ***The Lifting of the Cup***

*The cup may now be raised in full view of the congregation with such words  
as*

In the same way,  
he took the cup after supper, and said:  
'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it,  
do this in memory of me.'

## Sharing the Wine

*1 Corinthians 11.25*

*The wine is distributed. If individual glasses are used and the wine is retained to be drunk together, then the minister may say*

Drink this and remember that Christ's blood was shed for you and be thankful.

## Words of acclamation and prayer

*After all have received the wine and after a period of silence, sentences and prayers may be used, such as*

Your death, O Lord, we commemorate. Your resurrection we confess.  
Your final coming we await.  
Glory be to you, O Christ.

Father of all,  
we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared  
your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring  
life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you  
have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Some may wish to include intercessions or a fellowship prayer at this point,  
and closing worship may follow.*

## The Grace

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**