



A Communion Service for Advent

**Our father in heaven, may your holy name be honoured;
May your kingdom come;
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the food we need.
Forgive us the wrong we have done,
just as we forgive the wrongs others have done to us.
Do not bring us to hard testing without keeping us safe from evil.
The kingdom, with all power and glory, belongs to you alone.**

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life. [John 3.16]

God comes to us in Jesus;

because he loves us.

Jesus shares our life in every part and gives us eternal life;

because God loves us.

Jesus comes in his Spirit living his life in and through us;

because God loves us.

Jesus promised to be with us always. In various ways and situations we are aware of him. We make special times when together we open a door for him to come close to us. He himself, before his passion, death and resurrection, gave us this special way to remember him.

At supper with his friends whom he invited to share his mission, and knowing that they would soon be physically parted as he fulfilled God's great work of grace through the cross, he shared the Passover bread and wine with them. He told them that their eating and drinking together was like receiving his life into theirs. he said they would remember him and deepen their covenant relationship with him every time they shared bread and wine.

So we eat and drink in this way:

Lord Jesus we come to renew and deepen our life with you:

Come to my heart Lord Jesus;

Come to my mind Lord Jesus;

Come to embrace my spirit Lord Jesus:

The Invitation

In the name of Jesus who comes to us

I invite you to come with me to his table, and to share life with him.

Sharing Bread and Wine

Prayer

Lord, our God, we are never sure when we shall meet you and be aware of your presence and intervention in our lives. We ask for this Advent to be a time of expectancy through which we discover the joy and the splendour, the challenge and the comfort of your presence surrounding and indwelling our lives.

Come Lord Jesus

be the inspiration for our thinking;

and the source of our loving

as we watch and wait for you.