

# A Communion for Lent



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Jesus said: Love the Lord your God with all your heart. with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: Love your neighbour as you love yourself.

The Lord says:

Come, everyone who is longing for me;

Come, all you who are hungry for knowledge of me.

I will satisfy you.

Come to me and I will give you life.

These things cannot be bought or earned; they will cost you nothing.

Listen to me and do what I say

The Lord is close.

**We will turn to him and pray to him**

The Lord is merciful

**We will turn to him and know his forgiveness**

The Lord is God.

His ways and his thoughts are far beyond ours

**We will listen to him.** [after Isaiah 55]

## Hymn

**Longing for God** [after Psalm 63]

Lord, you are our God:

Deep in our whole being I we long to live closer to you;

Like people craving for water in a scorching desert.

we marvel at your majestic justice,

your powerful love,

your understanding and forgiveness

**Let us feel your presence through our worship together in this place.**

Your eternal, never-failing love is the greatest thing in life;

it is better than life itself:

**So we will praise you**

**We will give you thanks always;**

**We will bring our prayers to you;**

**We will come to you with the excitement of guests at a banquet.**

Lord, you have always been our help;

You have been like an immovable rock for us:

**We are happy to live under the shadow of your presence**

**We are safe while we cling to you;**

**You hold us up - we shall not fall.**

## Readings

## Hymn

## Sermon

## Hymn

## **Prayers of Intercession: Turning to God**

### **Prayers for the Church**

**Response:** *Spirit of Truth, Turn us to you*  
***Give your refreshing power to your***

***Church***

### **Prayers for the World**

**Response:** *Spirit of Justice, Turn us to you*  
***Give your unifying grace to the world***

### **Prayers for ourselves and others in need**

**Response:** *Spirit of Love, Turn us to you*  
***Give your comforting embrace to us all***

## **Prayer**

Lord God, your road through life is far longer than ours; your paths far broader; your destinations far clearer: Give us wisdom to see beyond the boundaries of our own minds and faith to pray with faith hope for the coming of your Kingdom every day and in your final day of Glory.

**In the name of Jesus. Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Offering**

## **Hymn**

## **Our Communion**

The act of Communion was given to us by our Lord as a way of remembering him and of receiving him into our lives - sharing his resurrection life - the life of his Spirit in us. He used the everyday tokens of bread and wine with which we receive sustenance for our bodies.

*Jesus said: I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread they will live for ever. The wine is the sign of my life blood which seals God's covenant.*

Today we take the bread and wine to say:

***Lord Jesus, come into my life; be born again in me.***

The Lord Jesus is Creator, Saviour, Lord.

He came into the world FOR all people:

His Spirit lives in those who believe in him:

He is God with us; God for us.

Creator, Saviour, Lord.

He comes to us with the Father's Spirit-gifts -

Love, reconciliation, peace, and eternal life.

## **We give thanks to God our Father**

The apostle Paul wrote:

No one can deny how great is the truth of our faith:

Christ Jesus came in human form;

he was shown to be right by the Spirit;

he was seen by angels;

he was preached among the nations;

he was believed in throughout the world

he was taken up to heaven *(1 Tim 3.16)*

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ;**

**You have given us new life;**

**You have made us your holy people.**

On the night before he died to rise to life again Jesus shared bread and wine with his friends and made it an everyday sign by which all who believe in him may remember him and receive him into their lives.

*He took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and said; "This is my body which is for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper he took the cup and said, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. When you drink this, remember me."*

Unworthy, but relying on his grace, let us receive him again

Come!

**We will come**

*Bread and wine are shared according to the usual custom*

**Prayer**

Father, our God, we praise you and give you thanks.

You have come to us in Jesus, your Son and through him you have made us one with you. By your Spirit strengthen us in grace and faith,

**that together with your people we may live and work until we see earth and heaven combined in the coming of your Kingdom of Love in your final day and everyday.**

**Hymn**

**Blessing**

Light and Life, joy and peace be ours in union with Christ Jesus

**God for us, God with us, God in us.**