

Deacon Led Communion

Communion is led by a Priest or a Bishop who consecrates the Bread and Wine and, with the assistance of Deacons and lay leaders, distributes Communion to the Congregation. When a priest is not available, with the bishop's permission, a Deacon may distribute bread and wine that has already been consecrated. (In extraordinary circumstances, a lay leader may distribute bread and wine that has already been consecrated, but this requires licensure by the bishop).

The first part of the liturgy, The Ministry of the Word, is the same, with the exception that the deacon, still kneeling, will say the absolution substituting "us" for "you" and "our" for "your".

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

After the Offering is collected and the Doxology has been sung, the service continues (there is no blessing at the end of the service).

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you. (or "and with your spirit").*

Deacon: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Deacon: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The deacon continues:

Father, we thank you for your love and redemption of us through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. We thank you that you call us to fellowship with you, and with one another, at your table.

The service may go straight to the Lord's Prayer or the deacon may say the following (with no manual actions and not touching the bread or the wine):

"A reading from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Deacon and people together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our

trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

or

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Deacon and people together:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith and with thanksgiving.]

The Ministration of Communion

The bread and the cup are given with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of Heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

or with these words

The Body of Christ, broken for you.

The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

Post Communion Prayer

After Communion the deacon says,

Let us pray

Deacon and People say together one of these prayers

Heavenly Father, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Or

Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us: that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of your everlasting kingdom. And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father, to assist us with your grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in; through

Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God!*