

A COMMUNION SERVICE FOR RECOVERING PEOPLE

FELLOWSHIP OF THE PRODIGAL

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn or Prayer

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. 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.**

Celebrant: Let us now come before our Creator with gratitude for all we have been so freely given in our recovery and say together the Prayer of our brother Francis:

Celebrant: Lord, make us a channel of your peace
That where there is hatred,

People: *I may bring love -*

Celebrant: That where there is wrong,

People: *I may bring the spirit of forgiveness -*

Celebrant: That where there is discord,

People: *I may bring harmony -*

Celebrant: That where there is error,

People: *I may bring truth -*

Celebrant: That where there is doubt,

People: *I may bring faith -*

Celebrant: That where there is despair,

People: *I may bring hope -*

Celebrant: That where there are shadows,

People: *I may bring light -*

Celebrant: That where there is sadness,

People: *I may bring joy.*

Celebrant: Lord, may I seek rather to comfort, than to be comforted -
To understand, than to be understood -
To love, than to be loved.

For it is by self forgetting that one finds peace.

People: *It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.*

Celebrant: It is by dying that one awakens to Eternal Life.

All: *Amen.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray: O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion on all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unending love and unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, we cried out to you from the pain of our addiction. In your great mercy you heard us and granted us your gift of recovery.

People: *May we always be grateful and willing to grow along spiritual lines.*

Leader: Lord, you brought us to our senses and awakened us to a new dimension of your reality; a world free from addiction and blessed by your presence.

People: *May we see your loving purpose in all things. Relieve us now from the bondage of self as you teach us to live and let live, one day at a time.*

Leader: Lord, we now are willing that you should have all of us, to make of us and do with us as you will.

People: *Remove from us now every defect of character that stands in the way of our usefulness to you and to our fellow man.*

Leader: Lord, we pray for healing in our families, in our workplaces and in all our relationships as well as for the comfort and healing of alcoholics and addicts and all who suffer.

People: *That they know a new freedom and a new happiness.*

Leader: Lord, we commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled. We pray especially for those who have shown us the way to recovery; for the founders of our fellowships, for sponsors and for friends; for those known and unknown to us who died sober and for those who died in their illness.

People: *They taught us to love and to be grateful. They are with us in the Fellowship of the Spirit.*

Leader: Please add now your own petitions either aloud or in your hearts. Please end your petition with the words "Let us pray to the lord."

People: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Lord, we know you hear the prayers of your people gathered here tonight. Together we thank you for all you have given us and we thank you for all you have taken away. Grant the requests we have asked if they be within your will. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Lord and Brother Jesus the Christ. **Amen**

Confession of our Shortcomings:

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: *God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves and in the world you have created.*

***We repent of the evil we have done
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore and strengthen us***

***Through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may delight in your will, and walk in
your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen***

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on us, heal all our defects of character and forgive us our shortcomings through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of your Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. ***Amen.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Peace

Celebrant: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's love and peace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Adapted

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

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

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Celebrant: All thanks and praise
are yours at all times and in all places,
our true and loving God;
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word,
the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world
and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb;
you brought forth all creatures of the earth
and gave breath to humankind.
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing,
all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
and so as the morning stars sing your praises
we join the heavenly beings and all creation
as we shout with joy:

Celebrant and People:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all,
your Word has never been silent;
you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations,
you delivered them from bondage

and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus
to be human, to share our life,
to proclaim the coming of your holy reign
and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you,
and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us
Jesus took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,
gave it to his friends and said:
"Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine,
said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:
"Drink this, all of you:
This cup is the new Covenant in my Blood
poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us;
The cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension,
longing for Christ's coming in glory,
and presenting to you these gifts
your earth has formed and human hands have made,
we acclaim you, O Christ:

Celebrant and People:

***Dying you destroyed our death.
Rising you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!***

Celebrant: Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine
that they may be to us
the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power,
may be a people of hope, justice and love.
Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ,
and in the fullness of time gather us with our brother St. James
and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
we worship you our God and Creator
in voices of unending praise.

Celebrant and People:

Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now we are bold to say:

THE LORDS' PRAYER

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: *We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.*

Communion (Note: Grape juice is used instead of wine. All are welcome at the Lord's table.)

Communion Hymn

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

***God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen***

Celebrant: Now let us close our service and say together the original serenity prayer:

Celebrant and People:

***God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change,
the courage to change the things we can
and the wisdom to know the difference.***

Celebrant: Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time.

Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.

Taking as Jesus did - this sinful world as it is - not as we would have it.

Trusting that You will make all things right, if we surrender to your will.

So we will be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with you forever in
the next.

Amen.

The Blessing:

Closing Hymn