

Communion under Special Circumstances:

Extending the Table for Homebound, Hospital, or Nursing Home

The table is to be set, with the reserved sacrament from that morning's service, the bread uncovered and cups poured.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The elder, deacon, or Eucharistic visitor reads a passage of Scripture appropriate to the day or occasion, or else one or more of the following:

Jesus said: Come to me all you who 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.

Matthew 11:28-29

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." *John 6:35*

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh. For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." *John 6:51, 55-56*

A brief interpretation may be given.

A Confession of Sin may follow.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The leader says

May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The Peace may then be exchanged.

Suitable prayers may then be offered, concluding with the following:

Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood: Grant that we may be filled now with the remembrance of your mighty acts of love, embodied in the death and resurrection of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. May we also receive this meal in thanksgiving for the one who took this bread and said, "Take. Eat. This is my body, broken for you," and took the cup and said, "Take. Drink. This is my blood, shed for you." And now we join our voices as one, in the words our Savior Christ taught us:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The elder or deacon holds up the bread and wine and says the following 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 hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

The bread and cup are given saying:

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

The following prayer of Thanksgiving is then said

Loving God, you graciously feed us with holy mysteries, the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have received this sacrament be strengthened in your service; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kingdom. For you have made us your own people by the death and resurrection of your Son our Lord and by the life-giving power of your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.