

# *Service of Reconciliation*

## — *Gathering* —

### SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,  
**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,**  
one God and Father of all,  
**who is above all and through all and in all.**

*Eph. 4:4-6*

### HYMN OF PRAISE

The Church's One Foundation

*GTG 321 / PH 442*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Sisters and brothers in Christ,  
our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin,  
and of our being grafted into Christ.

Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ,  
the power of sin was broken and God's kingdom entered our world.

Through our baptism we were made citizens of God's kingdom,  
and freed from the bondage of sin.

Let us celebrated that freedom and redemption  
through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism.

I ask you, therefore, once again to reject sin,  
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus,  
and to confess the faith of the church,  
the faith in which we were baptized.

### LITANY OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God,  
in baptism you called us to turn from sin and to turn to Jesus Christ;  
but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you joined us to Christ in his death  
that we might be raised with Christ in new life;  
but we cherish old ways and fail to embrace the risen life  
of righteousness, justice, and love.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you united us with all the baptized who confess your name;  
but we foster division in the church.

We refuse to live as one people,  
and so fail to witness to your reconciling love before the world.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you call us to ministry in all realms of life,  
but we refuse the struggle to know your will;  
we do not nurture the ways of peace;  
we allow enmity and hatred to grow among us,  
putting neighbor against neighbor, and nation against nation.

We abuse the earth you entrust to our care,  
and live in discord with all you have made.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you sent us to serve with compassion all for whom Christ died;  
but we ignore the suffering of the oppressed and the plight of the poor.

We take bread from the hungry, and will not listen to cries for justice.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

In baptism you gave us the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us,  
but we rely on ourselves, and refuse to trust your direction.

We spurn your eternal wisdom, preferring the luring ways of the world.

*Silence.*

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy on us.

Remember the promises you made to us in our baptism,  
forgive our sinful ways and heal our brokenness.

Set us free from all that enslaves us,  
and raise us to new life in Jesus Christ,  
that we may be your faithful servants,  
showing forth your healing love to the world,  
to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news!

In baptism you were buried with Christ.  
In baptism also you were raised to life with him,  
through faith in the power of God  
who raised Christ from the dead.

*Col. 2:12; 2 Cor. 5:17*

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,  
you are forgiven.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

If you have been raised with Christ,  
seek the things that are above,  
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

*Col. 3:1*

## THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

— *The Word* —

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept your word.  
Silence in us any voice but your own;  
that, hearing, we may also obey your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:13-22

## SERMON OR REFLECTION

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

*GTG 306 / PH 438*

— *Eucharist* —

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
They will come from east and west,

and from north and south,  
and sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke,  
when our risen Lord as at table with his disciples,  
he took the bread, and blessed and broke it,  
and gave it to them.  
Then their eyes were opened  
and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's table.  
Our Savior invites those who trust him  
to share the feast which he has prepared.

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,  
eternal God, our creator.

You have given us life and second birth in your Spirit.

Once we were no people, but now we are your people.

You raised up the church as a witness to the resurrection,  
breathing into it your life and power.

From worlds apart, you gathered us together.  
When we go astray, you welcome us home.

Always, your love has been steadfast.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven  
and with all the faithful of every time and place  
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

In love with you and in compassion for all,  
Jesus healed and taught, challenged and comforted, welcomed and saved.

He formed a new community,  
promising to be with his disciples wherever two or three were gathered,  
and sending them on his mission of hope and healing in the world.

Jesus trusted his life to you, and went freely to his death,  
so the world might be set free from suffering and sin.

You raised him from death and raise us also to live a new life with him.

In the power of the Holy Spirit,  
you send us out to make disciples as he commanded.

*The words of institution may be included here or at the breaking of the bread.*

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,  
we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us  
and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
as a living and holy offering of ourselves,  
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ  
and with all who are baptized in his name,  
that we may be one in ministry in every place.

As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

O God, today you have called us together to be the church.  
Unite us now at your table and make us one in Christ Jesus.  
Let your Spirit empower the life we share and enliven our witness in the world.  
With all the saints who have gone before us, keep us faithful to the gospel.

Give us strength to serve you until the promised day of the resurrection,  
when with the saints of all the ages we will feast with you in glory.

Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

## **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of grace,  
you renew us at your table with the bread of life.  
May this food strengthen us in love  
and help us to serve you in each other  
as we look for the coming of your holy realm.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.  
**Amen.**

— *Sending* —

**HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

Now Thank We All Our God

*GTG 643 / PH 555*

**BLESSING AND CHARGE**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all. **Alleluia!**

*2 Cor. 13:13*

Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,  
with all humility and gentleness,  
with patience, bearing with one another in love,  
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace. **Amen.**

*Eph. 4:1-2*