

## **Responsive Reading**

1Cor 10:16-17; Isaiah 55:1-2; John 1:12

**The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?  
The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?**

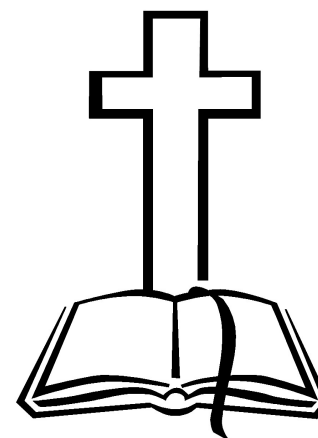
For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

**Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.**

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

**But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.**

# **Worship Service**



## **Communion**

# Order of Worship

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Closing Prayer

## I Was A Wandering Sheep

by Betty Jo Mathis

I was a wand'ring sheep,  
I did not love the fold;  
I did not love my Shepherd's voice,  
I would not be controlled.

The Shepherd sought His sheep,  
The Father sought His child;  
He followed me o'er vale and hill;  
O'er deserts waste and wild.

He found me nigh to death,  
Famished and faint and lone;  
He bound me with the bands of love.  
He saved the wand'ring one.

Jesus my Shepherd is;  
'Twas He that loved my soul,  
'Twas He that washed me in His blood,  
'Twas He that made me whole.

'Twas He that sought the lost,  
That found the wand'ring sheep,  
'Twas He that brought me to the fold,  
'Tis He that still doth keep.

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# "Communion"

**Opening Prayer:** Our Father, we thank You for the gift of salvation. We know we cannot save ourselves. Forgive us of our sins. With sincere humility we receive all that Jesus appropriated for us when He suffered and died in our stead. We bless You. We honor You. We love you. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

**Devotion:** Today, we have come together to share in "Communion" in obedience to the commandment of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. On the eve of His Passion on the Cross, He sat with His disciples to observe the Passover. You may remember, this occasion was in memorial to the deliverance of the Hebrews from the last plague in Egypt. Because they had sacrificed a spotless lamb and placed its blood on the doorposts, the firstborn of each household was spared as the Death Angel "passed over" that home. On that night the whole family sat together to eat the meal of that innocent lamb.

When we accept Jesus into our life, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our hearts by faith. We take His life into our being, just like we eat the bread and drink the cup of this Communion. We become one with Christ, and with all others who likewise put their faith in Him. Jesus is the spotless Sacrifice that God the Father recognizes, not our good deeds or our money or our religious activity. These things become our loving service to Him **because** of what He has done for us. As the song writer said: "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe!" Jesus is the innocent Lamb that suffered death in our stead - *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life."* John 3:16 As we take these symbols of His Body and His Blood, we attest to our trust in His saving sacrifice for us on the Cross and to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our heart.

## "Communion" continued

**Asking God's Blessing Over the Elements:** Heavenly Father, thank you for our Lord Jesus. Thank You for His Body and His Blood that He willingly gave for our redemption. Please bless these symbols of His sacrifice. We partake of this sacrament as our Lord Jesus has ordained in the Word of God. Amen.

*[Now distribute the bread. As the element of the bread is passed around by your helpers, sing "The Old Rugged Cross," page 23. Once everyone has received the bread, read the text below. Use your own discretion as to when the participants eat the bread.]*

**Text:** *"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." 1Corinthians 11:23-24*

*[Now distribute the cup. As the element of the cup is passed around by your helpers, sing "Were You There?," page 24. Once everyone has received the cup, read the text below. Use your own discretion as to when the participants drink the cup.]*

**Text:** *"After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." 1Corinthians 11:25-26*

**Closing Prayer:** Holy Father, we are honored to address You as Your children. We praise Your Name. We magnify You for Your provision and Your strength and Your love which You lavish on us everyday. Indeed, Your mercy endures forever. By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to be a proper witness for You to those around us who have not met You yet. Help us to shine for Your Glory and for the sake of Your Kingdom. In the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.