

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

ST AIDAN'S
UNITING CHURCH
NORTH BALWYN
AUSTRALIA



This Order may be reproduced in its entirety

Holy Communion at St Aidan's

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Minister: Wherever you may be on life's journey,
you are welcome at this table.
Holy Communion realises the grace of God,
revealed for us in the self-giving love of Jesus.
The elements of bread and wine become for us
the bread of life;
the cup of God's faithfulness.

All: **In company with all who seek God's grace,
we believe that through this life-giving sacrament
we are fed by God's love.**

THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: I invite you to share the sign of the Lord's peace with your
neighbours to your left and right.

COMMUNION HYMN (Seated)

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

All: **Holy God, we come to this table as we are:
some with great hope and faithful dreams;
some stumbling from uncertainty and doubt.
We call to mind those who suffer;
we confess our own imperfection.
We come, trusting in your acceptance and forgiveness,
as Jesus did.
AMEN**

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

Minister: Eternal God,
we give thanks:
for life in its richness;
for the earth and its abundance;
for Jesus of Nazareth, revealer of the sacred;
for this community of faith, gathered in his name;
for our unity as followers of Jesus;
for our call to transform the world in his name.

And so we praise you
with the faithful of every time and place,
joining with the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

All: (sung) *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory;
Glory be to you O Lord most high.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest!*

REMEMBRANCE

Minister: Eternal God,
Through Jesus we acknowledge the power
of love;
through him we are inspired by your Spirit of
compassion;
through him we are reconciled with you,
and with each other.
As he shared bread and wine with his friends,
we share this meal in remembrance of him.
AMEN

COMMISSIONING OF THE ELEMENTS

Minister: As grain once scattered
Comes together in one loaf,
we come together to share this bread:
symbol of our community in Jesus the Christ,
symbol of God's nourishment for our life.

(Lifts the bread and breaks it) *The bread of life, given for you.*

SUNG RESPONSE

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never hunger.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and never thirst.*

The cup we share is the cup of God's faithfulness;
revealed in the self-giving love of Jesus.
We share this cup in remembrance of him.

(Lifts the chalice) The cup of God's faithfulness, given for you.

SUNG RESPONSE

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never hunger.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and never thirst.*

PRAYER FOR THE SACRAMENT

Minister: Eternal God, as we eat and drink,
we celebrate the mystery of our faith.
We open hearts and minds to your Spirit,
poured upon us and upon this bread and wine.
Through this holy sacrament,
may we know you in Jesus the Christ,
in one another, and in the needy of this world.
AMEN

Come now to this table, for all is prepared.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

The bread of life. The cup of God's faithfulness.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Minister: God of all,
we give thanks that we have been nourished
by these symbols of your love for us.
Through them may our faith be strengthened;
may we grow in love for each other;
may we go into the world with courage
and in peace,
as followers of Jesus.
AMEN
