

Service of Holy Communion

Based on the Iona Community's "Alternative Communion Liturgy"

GREETING

- 1 Kia tau ki a tātou katoa, te atawhai me te rangimārie a te Atua.
Grace and peace be with us all from God.

Kia inoi tātou, let us pray.

E te atua, gracious God,

To whom all hearts are open, all desires known,

And from whom no secrets are hidden;

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts

By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,

So that we may truly love you

And worthily praise your holy name.

Though our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE DRAMA OF CREATION

- 1 In the beginning, God made the world:
God made it and mothered it, shaped it and fathered it;
filled it with seed and with signs of fertility,
filled it with life and with song and variety.
- 2 All that is green, blue, deep and growing,
God's is the hand that created you.
All that is tender, firm, fragrant and curious,
God's is the hand that created you.
All that crawls, flies, swims, walks or is motionless,
God's is the hand that created you.
All that speaks, sings, cries, laughs or keeps silence,
God's is the hand that created you.
All that suffers, lacks, limps or longs for an end,
God's is the hand that created you.
The world belongs to God,
The earth and all its people.

HĪMENE or HYMN

THE DRAMA OF THE INCARNATION

- 1 When the time was right, God sent the Son.
Sent him and suckled him, reared him and risked him;
Filled him with laughter and tears and compassion,
filled him with anger and love and devotion.
- 3 Unwelcomed child, refugee and runaway,
Christ is God's own son.
Skilled carpenter and homeless wayfarer,

Christ is God's own son.

Feeder and teacher, healer and antagonist,

Christ is God's own son.

Lover of the unlovable, toucher of the untouchable, forgiver of the unforgivable,

Christ is God's own son.

Loved by the least, feared by the leaders;

Befriended by the weak, despised by the strong;

Deserted by his listeners, denied by his friends;

Bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh,

Writing heaven's pardon over earth's mistakes,

Christ is God's own son.

The Word became flesh,

He lived among us, he was one of us.

READING(S) FROM SCRIPTURE

You may like to follow the reading(s) with a time of reflective silence, a brief homily, or an opportunity for sharing thoughts within the group.

THE DRAMA OF SALVATION

- 1** When the world could no longer wait,
the carpenters took up their tools,
they made a cross for God's own Son,
fashioned from wood and skill of human hands,
fashioned from hate and will of human minds.

- 4** He was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief,
For us he grieved.
He was summoned to the judgement hall,
an enemy of the state, a danger to religion,
For us he was judged.

He was lashed with tongues and scourged with thongs,

By his stripes we are healed.

He was nailed to the cross by human hands,

Bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh.

He died, declaring God's forgiveness.

He rose on the third day, transforming death.

He ascended into heaven, that he might be everywhere on earth.

He sent the Holy Spirit as the seal of his intention.

He sets before us bread and wine, and invites us to his table.

This is the place where we are made well again.

And all will be made well.

For God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world,

but that the world through him might be saved.

INVITATION

1 Jesus said, "I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,

And whoever believes in me will never be thirsty...

Anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away."

E te whānau, come feast on the bread of life.

The meal of creation, incarnation, salvation, and celebration.

All are welcome here. None is turned away.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

1 We gather because Jesus told us to do so.

This meal is a reminder and a tangible sign

of God's determination to live in communion with this world.

In this meal, God's life is spilled out for us.

And so we remember the night when Jesus gave this gift to us:

the night before his own life was about to be spilled for the world.

He took bread and, giving thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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“This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.”

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
You proclaim the death of the risen Lord until he comes.

THANKSGIVING

2 We give thanks, O God, that your hand creates and sustains all things
for communion and fullness of life with you.

3 We give thanks, O God, for the gift of your Son,
by which you have come to dwell among us,
fulfilling your good purposes for creation,
and healing all that divides us from you.

4 We give thanks, O God, that through your Son,
and by the power of your Spirit,
you are saving the world,
drawing us into the risen life of Jesus,
and bringing about the new heaven and earth.

1 So we join with all of creation in the eternal hymn of praise, saying:

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.

Tapu, tapu, tapu, e Ihowā,

e te Atua o ngā mano.

Ki tonu te rangi me te whenua

i te nui o tou korōria.

Hōhana i runga rawa.

Ka whakapaingia tēnei e haere mai nei

i runga i te ingoa o te Ariki.

Hōhana i runga rawa.

INTERCESSION

- 2 This meal is an anticipation of the day God will be all in all.
And so we pray God's blessing on the world:
A blessing on you who are poor,
yours is the kingdom of God.
- 3 A blessing on you who mourn,
you shall be comforted.
- 4 A blessing on you who are down-to-earth,
you shall inherit the earth.
- 2 A blessing on you who hunger for justice,
you shall be satisfied.
- 3 A blessing on you who are merciful,
you shall receive mercy.
- 4 A blessing on you who are pure in heart,
you shall see God.
- 2 A blessing on you who make peace,
you shall be called children of God.
- 3 A blessing on you who are persecuted in the cause of right,
yours is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 We pray these things in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying:

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,*

*E to mātou Mātua i te rangi,
kia tapu tōu ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tau e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite ano ki to te rangi.
Homai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mo tēnei rā.
Murua o mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei
i o te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.*

*and the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.*

*Aua hoki mātou e kawea
kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino.
Nou hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha, me te kororia,
Āke, āke, āke, Amine.*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

- 1 Pour out your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine that they open our eyes to your presence in us and with us; that they may signify our communion with you and with one another; and that may be a seal in us of your covenant promise to resurrect and renew us to your glory. **Amen.**

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.
Break the bread.

Ko tēnei taro e whatia nei
ko te whakakotahitanga
o te Tinana o te Karaiti.

The cup we take
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
Lift the cup.

Ko tēnei kapu,
ko te whakakotahitanga
o ngā toto o te Karaiti.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Ngā taonga o te Atua mo ona pononga.
Communion is shared, after which a short post-communion prayer may be said.

THE SIGN OF PEACE

- 1 Kia tau te rangimārie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou.
May the peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

THE DRAMA OF CELEBRATION

1 In the end as in the beginning, God is God:
loved by us, wanted by us,
praised by us, served by us;
filling the people with the gifts of the Spirit,
making them whole for the good of the earth.

For bread and wine, this place and this time,

Thanks be to God.

For the peace we are promised which the world won't destroy,

Thanks be to God.

For the hope of heaven on earth and the final song of joy,

Thanks be to God.

HĪMENE or HYMN

BLESSING

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa,
te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti,
me te aroha o te Atua,
me te whiwhingatahitanga
ki te Wairua Tapu,
ake, ake, ake Amine.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all,
now and forever, Amen.