

WORSHIP & PRAYER

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



These worship resources are part of the World Communion Sunday pastor and leader kit. They can be adapted for your context and integrated into your worship service with the other material in the kit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: On this World Communion Sunday, Jesus Christ gathers us from the north, south, east and west. All of humanity, politically diverse, ethnically diverse, with diverse gifts, Jesus centers us, here today into one body.

People: *We come to the Lord's table because of God's Grace, and God's mercy toward all of us. We have sinned, but because of Jesus Christ, we know there is no greater love than your sacrifice on the cross of Calvary. Thank you Jesus!*

Leader: From every nation, tribe, language, and people, God is calling the Church to unity, peace, and love in Christ.

People: *We come as one body, redeemed by one savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. HALLELUJAH!*

Leader: This is not our table, but the Table of Jesus Christ, where everyone is welcomed. Everyone is welcomed from all walks of life.

People: *Christ our Lord invites us all to come. HALLELUJAH!*

Leader: Here we remember and may we never forget the life, death, and resurrection story, the empty grave, the encounter with Mary and his disciples, the assertion power of Jesus Christ, and the promise that Christ Jesus will come back again.

People: *Today we receive grace for the journey. HALLELUJAH!*

Leader: In this place we join Christians throughout the world.

People: *Today we remember, we are many people, yet one body in Jesus Christ. HALLELUJAH!*

Leader: Today we will worship our God who knits us together of one body in Jesus Christ.

People: *With tremendous gratitude and reverence, today I worship the Lord in spirit and in truth. HALLELUJAH!, HALLELUJAH! HALLELUJAH*

PRAYER

(Led by Lead Pastor and Lay Leader)

Lead Pastor: Gracious and eternal God, we come with glad hearts and lifted voices, thanking you for your goodness, your mercy, and your unfailing love. We bless you for Jesus Christ, our Savior, for the bread of life and the cup of grace, and for the joy of gathering at your table on this World Communion Sunday.

Lay Leader: Lord, we thank you for all your creation for the earth and the heavens, for the seas and the land, for every living thing that declares your glory. We thank you for your Church throughout the world, for your people in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, Australia, and Antarctica, and for every nation, every culture, every race, and every language lifting the name of Jesus.

Lead Pastor: Make us one, O God. In a world too often divided, let your Church stand as a witness of love, hope, justice, and peace. Bind us together across every boundary, break down every wall that divides, and remind us that we are one body in Christ.

Lay Leader: Bless those who are burdened today—the sick, the grieving, the weary, and the forgotten. Strengthen the weak,

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comfort the hurting, guide the leaders of the nations, and pour out your Spirit on your people everywhere.

Together: Lord, bless your creation, bless your Church, bless all people everywhere. Feed us with your grace, fill us with your Spirit, and send us out with joy, courage, and holy love. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life and the Savior of the world, we pray. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, we thank you for every good and perfect gift that comes from Your hand.

Today we offer you our best, our tithes and offerings, these acts of generosity as signs of our gratitude and trust in you, God.

Bless these gifts of money representing our gratitude to you, because of how you have blessed us, and kept us. Get your glory, use these gifts giving back to your ministries, may our financial gifts to strengthen your Church, the United Methodist Church, the Universal Church and bless your people throughout the world.

Let our gifts bring hope to a hurting world, food to hungry communities, and a strong witness throughout the world, so the world through the power of Jesus Christ.

BENEDICTION

Now may the God who created the world and the universe, Christ our redeemer, and the Power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us send us forth in peace, love and unity, with tremendous joy.

Just as we came to the Remembrance Table, let us go now as one united people of God, and serve one Lord in every place and among all people.

Help us go forth with courage and grace in our hearts, with joyful praise on your lips, and love in our hands. And may the blessing of you our Almighty God, Jesus your Son, and our comforter the Holy Spirit, rest, rule, and abide within us, now and forever. It is so! HALLELUJAH!

Having received the bread and the cup, let us now go beyond the walls of the church to share the love of Christ in our neighborhoods, our communities, and throughout the world.

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