



16 May 2015

*KingsGate Conference Centre, Peterborough*

## Communion Liturgy

### **Voices**

Two groups of five people of mixed ages on either side of the stage - in a sort of huddle around a microphone - their contribution would need to be explained very carefully & possibly rehearsed. Their contributions need pace and clarity for it to be effective.

### **Leader**

This sharing of bread and wine, communion, is an integral part of our lives together, as it was of the disciples' lives with Jesus. It is part of the story of sharing our lives with each other and of opening our lives to the presence of God – to the turning to God and his ways that he calls us to each day.

The journey of our lives is one of intense variety - of excitement, of activity and of resting, of highs and lows, of joys and sadness, of conflict and reconciliation. It is a journey of real people, living real lives, following the calling of a real God. It has been a journey we have made, and will go on making ...

In Romans 12, Paul says these words

**Take your everyday, ordinary life-your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life-and place it before God as an offering. Romans 12**

**Group 1 starts**, taking it in turns to say two examples each.

**Walking, Running, Eating, Drinking, Sharing, Giving, Listening, Talking, Learning, Teaching, Encouraging, Challenging, Shouting, Screaming, Holding on, Letting go, Fighting, Healing, Laughing, Grieving, Waiting, Acting, Being, Doing, Breaking, Mending, Living, Dying...**

All of Me.

**Group 2 joins in** speaking over the first group after 'Sharing, Giving', and obviously continues after Group 1 has finished.

**Walking, Running, Eating, Drinking, Sharing, Giving, Listening, Talking, Learning, Teaching, Encouraging, Challenging, Shouting, Screaming, Holding on, Letting go, Fighting, Healing, Laughing, Grieving, Waiting, Acting, Being, Doing, Breaking, Mending, Living, Dying...**

All of me.

### **Leader**

As we come to celebrate the offering of Christ for us, we, as Paul says

Bring our everyday, ordinary life - our sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life - and place it before God as an offering. Romans 12

### **Leader**

So, Welcome

**Group 1 (each to say one line)**

**The door is open**

**The table has room**

**The food is plentiful**

**The company is warm**

**The shelter is total**

**Leader**

Welcome

**Group 2**

**There are no special places**

**There is no head of the table**

**There are no VIPs**

**There are no servants**

**There are no exceptions**

**Leader**

Welcome

**Group 1**

**The entrance is free**

**The invitation is open**

**The hand is extended**

**There is no time limit**

**The time is now**

**Leader**

Welcome

**Group 2**

**The meal is served, eat & drink**

**The meal is served, rest, relax, listen**

**Be yourself**

**Be one with us**

**Be one with God**

**Leader**

Over 2000 years ago, Christ welcomed his followers to the table,

He washed them, as a servant washes important visitors,

He fed them, as parents feed their children,

He laughed with them, as friends laugh together,

He blessed them, as a host blesses guests,

He loved them, as God loves all creation.

You too are welcome at his table ... to be served, washed, fed, laughed with, blessed and loved ...

Whether you deserve it or not ...

Whether you think you deserve it or not ...

You are welcomed here by Christ himself.

**Short Prayer** [place to add your own words]

**Lift the bread**

Over 2000 years ago, at the meal with his followers, Jesus used bread to be a sign of his own body.

He told them

*This is my body.*

*When it is broken and shared*

*It is broken and shared for you.*

**Break it open**

So, take this bread – in it God come to us, so that we may come to God.

**And when you come together, say these words:**

**In this bread**

**God comes to us**

**So that we may come to God.**

Over 2000 years ago, at the end of the meal with his followers – just before Jesus was arrested and put to death, he picked up some wine and told them -

*This wine is a symbol, a picture, of the new relationship with God that will be able to happen when I die.*

So drink the wine, remember his death, and be glad - because in it God comes to us, so that we may come to God.

**And when you come together, say these words:**

**In this wine**

**God comes to us**

**So that we may come to God.**

Thank you God for this bread, for this wine, for your love, for your presence, and for one another.

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