

Central Christian Church

Enid, Oklahoma

Elder Handbook



2009 - 2010

“elders are the heartbeat”

Quick Reference Telephone Numbers:

Central Christian Church Office
233-1214



John McLemore, Senior Minister
H: 233-4214 C: 402-2522

Don Johnson, Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Administrative Services
H: 237-4779 C: 402-2612

Carolyn McLemore, Director of Children's & Educational Ministries
H: 233-4214 C: 402-3193

John Wheeler, Minister to Youth & Young Adults
H: 237-3667 C: 402-8348

Kristy Petersen, Board Moderator
H: 237-0386 C: 484-4535

Barbara Baker, Elder Chair
H: 237-7820 C: 484-3188

Devon McAnally, Elder Vice-Chair
H: 234-0948 C: 747-5986

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Responsibilities of an Ordained Elder

The elders shall generally be responsible for the spiritual life and development of the congregation; preside at the Lord's Table; assist and share with any minister in the conduct of his or her pastoral functions; and provide supportive counsel for any minister regarding the spiritual life and development of this congregation. Specifically, the elders shall actively promote the growth and welfare of this congregation by providing personal visitation and calls to members who are unable to attend church services; by contacting all members who have been absent from the life of this congregation as set forth in the policies and procedures for elders; provide thoughtful consideration to policies of this congregation that will enhance fulfillment of our mission; encourage by example and work the missionary, evangelistic, education and stewardship responsibilities of the congregation; occupy the pulpit for services if necessary; and perform any other duties as may be assigned by the general board.

*Reprinted from the Central Christian Church Bylaws (2005), Section E: Duties of Elders and Diaconate (page 9).

Characteristics of an Elder

- Blameless as a steward of God; above reproach* (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6-7)
- Temperate, sober, vigilant* (1 Timothy 3:2)
- Sober-minded, prudent* (1 Timothy 3:2, Titus 1:8)
- Of good behavior; orderly, respectable* (1 Timothy 3:2)
- Given to hospitality* (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8)
- Apt to teach; able to teach* (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:9)
- Not given to wine* (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- Not violent, not pugnacious* (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- Patient, moderate, forbearing, gentle* (1 Timothy 3:3)
- Not a brawler; not soon angry or quick tempered* (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- Not covetous; not a lover of money; not greedy* (1 Timothy 3:3, Titus 1:7)
- Rules well his own house; his children are faithful* (1 Timothy 3:4, Titus 1:7)
- Not a novice; not a new convert* (1 Timothy 3:6)
- Has a good report or reputation with outsiders* (1 Timothy 3:7)
- Not self-willed* (Titus 1:7)
- A lover of what is good* (Titus 1:7)
- Just, fair* (Titus 1:8)
- Self-Controlled* (Titus 1:8)
- Holy, devout* (Titus 1:8)

Duties

- Shepherd the flock, setting an example for all* (1 Peter 5:1-3)
- Feed and care for the church* (Acts 20:28; 1 Thessalonians 5:12)
- Teach and preach sound doctrine* (1 Timothy 5:17; Titus 1:9)
- Rule and lead* (1 Timothy 5:17; Hebrews 13:17; cf. 1 Thessalonians 5:12)
- Train and ordain others* (Acts 14:23; 1 Timothy 4:14; 5:22; Titus 1:5)
- Refute and rebuke the insubordinate* (Titus 1:9, 13)
- Serve clothed in Christ-like humility* (1 Peter 5:3-5)
- Keep watch over & give account to God for the spiritual well-being of the church* (Hebrews 13:17)

Gifts and Requirements

Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both within the church and in the world.

Central Christian Church
2008-2009 Elder Roster

			<u>Term Ends:</u>
Adams, Phil	515 S. Garfield	233-3950	'11
Angle, Don	130 Colorado Ave.	233-6061	'12
Baker, Barbara	3301 Goldfinch	234-7820	'10
Bartlett, Burl	3119 Willow Lake Lane	233-9311	'10
Bracher, Dorothy	2815 Wildwood	237-4120	'11
Bracher, Worth	2815 Wildwood	237-4120	'12
Cox, James	1519 Sunrise	233-6649	'10
Dell, David	217 Deer Run	233-0042	'11
Dell, Sue	217 Deer Run	233-0042	'12
Foster, Karen	3502 Elm Place	237-3927	'10
Fowler, Willa Jo	402 N. 19 th	234-5638	'10
Greenhaw, Joyce	111 N. Hoover	237-5115	'10
Harris, Dan	1609 Vinita	233-4695	'11
Hula, Gary	2714 Constitution	234-3023	'11
Johnson, Mary	2722 Sunnybrook Circle	234-8322	'12
Johnson, Max	2722 Sunnybrook Circle	234-8322	'10
Jones, Janet	2308 Kiowa	234-1826	'12
Krick, Denny	2610 Indian Dr	237-4574	'12
Krick, Peg	2610 Indian Dr	237-4574	'11
McAnally, Devon	1205 W. Maine	234-0948	'12
Meyer, Becky	613 Aspen Dr	242-5716	'10
Novak, Gail	3206 Redbird Ln	233-9773	'11
Novak, Pat	3206 Redbird Ln	233-9773	'10
Pritchett, Chuck	2008 Wagon Trail	242-2713	'11
Shaw, Sherry	304 Oakdale	242-1018	'10
Smith, Roy	2721 Sunnybrook Circle	237-7336	'12
Stout, Tom	2422 W. Maple	237-6283	'12
Whinery, Bret	2620 Clairemont	237-1635	'11



Elders (*Not Currently Serving on the General Board 2009-2010)

			<small>Last Year Served</small>
Batterman, Marion	2311 Indian Dr.	234-5994	'05
Beach, Mary	2902 W. Broadway	234-5767	'07
Blankenship, Jerry	1220 W. York	233-3248	'08
Bushman, Thom	2715 Sunnybrook Circle	242-2810	'09
Clark, Willo	1410 Vinita	233-0101	'09
Cox, Janet	1519 Sunrise	233-6649	
Crites, Chuck	1101 Canterbury	237-5475	'06
Eck, David	4108 Country Club Dr.	237-3630	'09
Giberson, Mickie	414 W. Park	237-5770	'09
Greenhaw, Bob	111 N. Hoover	237-5115	'08
Horrall, Curt	913 Compound	234-7458	'05
Janzen, Ron	2426 Robin Ridge	237-0896	'05
Loomis, Madge	1406 W. Wabash	234-7622	'09
Meyer, Brian	613 Aspen Drive	242-5716	'08
Newton, Fig	2310 W. Broadway	233-3720	'09
Phillips, Merle	2818 Constitution	234-1910	'08
Shaw, Bill	304 Oakdale	554-4324	'07
Simpson, Bea	2014 Quailwood	234-1177	'09
Slack, Ken	2209 W. Elm	234-0763	'05

***Please utilize this list of Elders when you require a substitute.**

The following three pages include the **Elder Serving Schedule** for the 8:00am & 10:15am service, and for **Homebound Communion**.

Please mark your calendars

If you are unable to serve on a particular date, please arrange for your own substitute. Once a substitute is found, please notify the Elder Chair and the Church Office of the change.

Reminder: Please utilize the Elders who are not currently serving on the board.

Church Office: 233-1214

***Please call on our hospitalized during the week that you are scheduled to serve.**

E-mail your prayer requests to:



Prayers@CentralEnid.org

Elder Schedule

2009-2010

Date	8:00 Service	10:15 Offering	10:15 Communion
July 5	David Dell	Bret Whinery	Peg Krick
July 12	Pat Novak	Worth Bracher	Becky Meyer
July 19	Phil Adams	Joyce Greenhaw	Tom Stout
July 26	Gary Hula	Dan Harris	Mary Johnson
August 2	Willa Jo Fowler	Gail Novak	Jim Cox
August 9	Chuck Pritchett	Sherry Shaw	Dorothy Bracher
August 16	Sue Dell	Don Angle	Denny Krick
August 23	Becky Meyer	Devon McAnally	David Dell
August 30	Karen Foster	Barbara Baker	Janet Jones
September 6	Worth Bracher	Gary Hula	Phil Adams
September 13	Bret Whinery	Burl Bartlett	Dan Harris
September 20	Peg Krick	Tom Stout	Pat Novak
September 27	Jim Cox	Mary Johnson	Max Johnson
October 4	Gail Novak	Chuck Pritchett	Don Angle
October 11	Denny Krick	Sue Dell	Willa Jo Fowler
October 18	Janet Jones	Dorothy Bracher	Sherry Shaw
October 25	Devon McAnally	Phil Adams	Joyce Greenhaw
November 1	Burl Bartlett	Becky Meyer	Karen Foster
November 8	Tom Stout	Worth Bracher	Gary Hula
November 15	Dan Harris	Peg Krick	Max Johnson
November 22	Barbara Baker	Jim Cox	Sue Dell
November 29	Chuck Pritchett	Sherry Shaw	Bret Whinery
December 6	Don Angle	Willa Jo Fowler	Gail Novak
December 13	David Dell	Pat Novak	Denny Krick
December 20	Mary Johnson	Max Johnson	Becky Meyer
December 27	Phil Adams	Joyce Greenhaw	Janet Jones
January 3	Dorothy Bracher	Karen Foster	Tom Stout
January 10	Gary Hula	Dan Harris	Worth Bracher
January 17	Sherry Shaw	Devon McAnally	Don Angle
January 24	Sue Dell	Chuck Pritchett	Peg Krick
January 31	Bret Whinery	David Dell	Max Johnson
February 7	Jim Cox	Barbara Baker	Becky Meyer
February 14	Gail Novak	Mary Johnson	Burl Bartlett
February 21	Denny Krick	Janet Jones	Willa Jo Fowler
February 28	Tom Stout	Sherry Shaw	Karen Foster
March 7	Devon McAnally	Don Angle	Chuck Pritchett
March 14	Dan Harris	Joyce Greenhaw	Phil Adams
March 21	Worth Bracher	Sue Dell	Dorothy Bracher
March 28	Pat Novak	Gary Hula	Denny Krick
April 4	Max Johnson	Burl Bartlett	Bret Whinery
April 11	Becky Meyer	Gail Novak	Janet Jones
April 18	Peg Krick	Barbara Baker	Jim Cox
April 25	Karen Foster	Tom Stout	Mary Johnson
May 2	Don Angle	Dorothy Bracher	Worth Bracher
May 9	Joyce Greenhaw	David Dell	Devon McAnally
May 16	Chuck Pritchett	Pat Novak	Sue Dell
May 23	Willa Jo Fowler	Peg Krick	Denny Krick
May 30	Janet Jones	Gary Hula	Jim Cox
June 6	Mary Johnson	Bret Whinery	Dan Harris
June 13	Sherry Shaw	Karen Foster	Barbara Baker
June 20	Phil Adams	Max Johnson	Gail Novak
June 27	David Dell	Devon McAnally	Burl Bartlett

Elder Homebound Communion Schedule

July 12, 2009	Joyce Greenhaw Karen Foster Dan Harris Tom Stout Worth Bracher Mary Johnson Jim Cox Peg Krick
August 2, 2009	Sue Dell Barbara Baker Becky Meyer Burl Bartlett Phil Adams Janet Jones Devon McAnally Gary Hula
September 6, 2009	Tom Stout Willa Jo Fowler Sherry Shaw Chuck Pritchett Max Johnson Pat Novak Gail Novak Dorothy Bracher
October 4, 2009	Denny Krick David Dell Bret Whinery Joyce Greenhaw Karen Foster Sue Dell Worth Bracher Mary Johnson
November 1, 2009	Willa Jo Fowler Jim Cox Peg Krick Dan Harris Barbara Baker Phil Adams Janet Jones Devon McAnally
December 6, 2009	Burl Bartlett Becky Meyer Gary Hula Tom Stout Sherry Shaw Chuck Pritchett Max Johnson Pat Novak
*Reminder: If you cannot serve on a particular date, please find your own substitute. Please call the church office to notify them of any changes.	

*Reminder: If you cannot serve on a particular date, please find your own substitute. Please call the church office to notify them of any changes.	
January 3, 2010	Willa Jo Fowler
	Gail Novak
	Denny Krick
	David Dell
	Dorothy Bracher
	Joyce Greenhaw
	Sue Dell
	Worth Bracher
February 7, 2010	Bret Whinery
	Karen Foster
	Mary Johnson
	Sherry Shaw
	Jim Cox
	Peg Krick
	Dan Harris
	Barbara Baker
March 7, 2010	Phil Adams
	Janet Jones
	Devon McAnally
	Burl Bartlett
	Becky Meyer
	Gary Hula
	Chuck Pritchett
	Max Johnson
April 4, 2010	Tom Stout
	Sherry Shaw
	Pat Novak
	Willa Jo Fowler
	Gail Novak
	Denny Krick
	David Dell
	Joyce Greenhaw
May 2, 2010	Bret Whinery
	Sue Dell
	Karen Foster
	Mary Johnson
	Peg Krick
	Dan Harris
	Barbara Baker
	Phil Adams
June 6, 2010	Worth Bracher
	Dorothy Bracher
	Chuck Pritchett
	Jim Cox
	Janet Jones
	Devon McAnally
	Burl Bartlett
	Becky Meyer

The Seasons of the Church

Advent: Nov 29 – Dec 24, 2009

Christmas: Dec 25, 2009 – Jan 5, 2010

Epiphany: Jan 6 – Feb 16, 2010

Lent: Feb 21 – Apr 6, 2010

Ash Wednesday February 17, 2010

Good Friday – April 2, 2010

Easter: April 4, 2010

Pentecost: May 23, 2010

Advent: Nov 28 – Dec 24, 2010

The observance of the seasons of the church year has a long history in the life of Christian Faith. When most of the people in the church were poor and had no access to education, the church festivals and the cycle of the church year provided a vehicle for teaching the story of God and God's actions in human history. These seasons, with their various themes, are a constant reminder of the sacredness of our days.

The church year begins with **Advent**, a four-week period of preparation for Jesus' birth. It is marked as a time of waiting, joyful anticipation, penitence, and hope for God to come into the darkness of the present time. The color of Advent is purple or blue.

Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ and the light he brings to the world. It is a time of joy and thanksgiving for the love that is born to us. The color for Christmas is white.

Epiphany follows the twelve days of Christmas and commemorates the arrival of the Magi at the manger. This season considers the profound revelation of God in Jesus, symbolized by the light of the bright star, and the character of discipleship, represented by the Magi who searched until they found the Messiah, brought their gifts, and worshipped him. The color for Epiphany is white, yellow, or gold. The color for Sundays following Epiphany is green.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and the service of ashes. This is a season of deep introspection, when Christians courageously seek the truth about themselves before God and seek forgiveness. Repentance is the preparation we make for Holy Week and the Passion of Christ. The color for Lent is Purple.

Easter, beginning with Easter Sunday, is the glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection and the profound hope that beyond all earthly tribulation we shall be brought to a new place, and that not even death can keep us from the One who loves us. The color for Easter is white.

Pentecost begins with Pentecost Day, 50 days after Easter. On Pentecost, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. Themes for this season include the church as true community, evangelism, and outreaching ministries. The color for Pentecost Day is red. All following Sundays are green.

Between the seasons of Pentecost and Advent, as well as between Epiphany and Lent, is **Ordinary Time**. Ordinary time represents our common days that are interrupted by the extraordinary times of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. These are not meant to be mundane times, but rather the time of regular living, times for spiritual growth, nurture, and reflection on our lives as Disciples of Christ. The color for Ordinary Time is green.

* ***RESOURCES for the Offertory***

Scriptural References for the Offertory:

- ***Proverbs 28:27***
- ***James 1:17***
- ***2 Corinthians 9:7***
- ***Acts 20:35***
- ***Luke 6:38***
- ***Matthew 10:8***
- ***Matthew 6:1-3***
- ***Matthew 5:42***

Resources for the Elder's Offertory Prayer

Offering Meditations and Prayers by Laurence C. Keene

Offering Meditations by Ray Miles



* **RESOURCES for Communion**

Scriptural References for Communion:

- **Matthew 26:20-25**
- **Matthew 14:17-23**
- **John 6:35, 51,55,56**
- **John 12:24,25**
- **1 Corinthians 11:27-32**

Resources for the Elder's Communion Prayer

At the Lord's Table by Carlton C. Buck

At the Lord's Table; Communion Prayers for All Seasons by Douglas Skinner

Bread of Blessing, Cup of Hope by Michael E. Dixon

Brief Prayers for Bread and Cup by Russell F. Harrison

Communion Reflections and Prayers by James L. Christensen

Communion Thoughts and Prayers by Carlton C. Buck

The Elder at the Lord's Table by Thomas W. Toler

More Brief Prayers for Bread and Cup by Russell F. Harrison



Biblical Texts of the Last Supper:

Matthew 26:26-29

26While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

27Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. **28**This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29**I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom."

Mark 14:22-25

22While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body."

23Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it.

24"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. **25**"I tell you the truth; I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."

Luke 22:14-19

14When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. **15**And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **16**For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

17After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. **18**For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

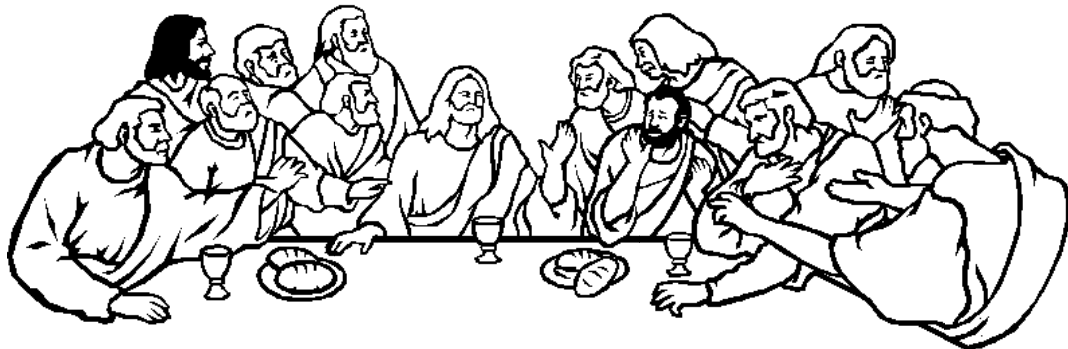
19And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11: 23-34

23For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, **24**and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." **25**In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." **26**For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

27Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. **28**A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. **29**For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. **30**That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. **31**But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. **32**When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

33So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. **34**If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment. And when I come I will give further directions.



A Disciples Affirmation



As members of the Christian Church,

We confess that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God,
and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world.

In Christ's name and by his grace
we accept our mission of witness and service to all people.

We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth,
and in the covenant of love which binds us to God and one another.

Through baptism into Christ we enter into newness of life
and are made one with the whole people of God.

In the communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined together in
discipleship and in obedience to Christ.

At the table of the Lord we celebrate with thanksgiving
the saving acts and presence of Christ.

Within the universal church,
we receive the gift of ministry and the light of scripture.

In the bonds of Christian faith we yield ourselves to God
that we may serve the One whose kingdom has no end.

Blessing, glory and honor be to God forever.

Amen.

---Preamble to the Design for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Guidelines for making Hospital visits:

- If you are going into the ICU, always stop at the desk and ask a nurse for permission to see the patient.
- Look to see if there is a sign on the door with special instructions about wearing gloves or a gown – and always follow these instructions. *If you are required to wear a mask, the best advice is to not visit the patient. Be sure to ask a nurse if there are any questions or concerns about any special instructions.
- If the door is closed, knock and ask if you can come in.
- Always spray your hands with aerosol disinfectant as you enter and leave a patients room.
- If the patient is alone and appears to be asleep, or if the doctor is in the room, do not visit at this time. Return in 5 to 10 minutes if you can, or leave a note at the nurse's desk.
- Hospital visits should be limited to 10 minutes. If a person has recently had an operation, or seems tired, a 5 minute visit is recommended.
- Standing gives the impression that you are in a hurry, so please sit down-- in front of the patient—in a chair or on the side of the bed. Be aware of tubes and other equipment if you sit on the bed.
- Touch the patient; Ask if you can hold their hand when you pray or read scripture. Watch out for IV's when holding their hand and be extremely gentle.
- Be sure to call the patient by their name.
- Read a short scripture – Psalm 23 is always welcomed.
- Leave a card with your name in the patient's room before you leave – especially if they were asleep and you were unable to visit with them.
- Pray with and/or for the patient. Again, this is a great time to hold their hand.
- Ask if there is anything that you can do for them; ask if there is anything that Central Christian Church can do for them or their family members.
- Be extra careful of the patient's confidences. If they agree, please notify one of the ministers or call the church office.

List of Hospitals, Medical Facilities, and Care Centers:

Integris Bass Baptist Hospital

600 S. Monroe
Ph: 233-2300 E/R: 548-1120

Integris Northwest Specialty Hospital “The Pavilion”

401 S. Third
Ph: 249-4262

St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center

305 S. 5th Street
Ph: 233-6100

Surgery Center of Enid

1133 W Willow Road
Ph: 233-7171

Minor Emergency Clinic

402-B S. Oakwood
Ph: 234-1831

Urgent Care Plus

1805 W. Owen K. Garriott
Ph: 233-9012

Dexeus Oncology Center

825 E. Owen K. Garriott
Ph: 234-1061

Methodist Nursing Home

301 S. Oakwood Road
237-6164

The Arbors

4502 W. Randolph
242-4500

Sterling House

4613 W. Willow Road
237-0700

Greenbrier Nursing Home

1119 E. Owen K. Garriott
233-0121

Greenbrier Skilled Nursing

1121 E. Owen K. Garriott
242-5104

Greenbrier Assisted Living

1217 E. Owen K. Garriott
233-1331

Living Center

1409 N. 17th Street
234-1411

Golden Oaks Nursing Home / Skilled Nursing

5801 N. Oakwood
234-1911

Golden Oaks Assisted Living

234-1708

Highland Park Manor

1410 W. Willow
234-2526

Hospice Circle of Love

Ph: 234-2273

Carter Healthcare

Ph: 237-3672

Ross Health Care

Ph: 213-3333



An Order for the Lord's Supper...

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gathered as a portion of Christ's church, Jesus reminds us of his promise:

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

We particularly treasure the Lord's Supper in which Christ is made know to us in the breaking of bread. Through sharing of bread and wine in thankful remembrance, we experience afresh the assurance of God's great love and kindness in Christ Jesus. Sustained and nourished within the body of Christ by these emblems, we confidently entrust ourselves to God's future filled with hope and promise.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

An appropriate scripture may be read and briefly applied to particular circumstances. Possible choices include:

Comfort:	Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7
God's Care:	Psalms 23, 27, 103
Promises:	Matthew 11:28-30; John 3:16-17
Help in Trouble:	Psalms 46, 91, 121; Romans 8:31-39
Time of Anxiety:	Psalms 37:1-11; Matthew 6:25-34
Repentance & Confession:	Psalms 51; 1 John 5:14-15
Christian Love:	1 Corinthians 13
Growth in Grace:	Ephesians 3:13-21; Philippians 3:7-14

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We recall that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ***“This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”*** In the same way, he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ***“This cup is the new covenant 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 the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

COMMUNION PRAYER

The prayer or prayers of thanksgiving and remembrance may be spoken freely or given as follows:

Our gracious God, we thank you for loving the world into existence and sustaining all of life by your goodness. With gratitude we recall that you revealed yourself through prophets and teachers and most fully in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Through the power of your Spirit, let us know afresh the joy of Christ's living presence, the strength to face every circumstance of life, and the knowledge that nothing can ever separate us from your love. Amen.

PARTAKING OF BREAD AND CUP

Being sensitive to the communicant's condition, one or both elements may be served in whatever manner is deemed fitting. If partaking is impossible, touch the elements to the lips in an act of intention, giving assurance of Christ's presence.

SERVING BREAD AND CUP

Sharing the bread, say:

The body of Christ; the bread of heaven.

Or:

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and be thankful.

Sharing the cup, say:

The blood of Christ; the cup of salvation.

Or:

Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

BENEDICTION

*May God bless you and keep you
May God's face shine upon you
And be gracious to you.*



*May God look upon you with kindness,
And give you peace. Amen*



Psalm 23

A Psalm of David:

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
- 3 he restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death, ^[a]
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

Psalm 27

A Psalm of David:

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation—
whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life—
of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evil men advance against me
to devour my flesh, ^[a]
when my enemies and my foes attack me,
they will stumble and fall.

- 3** Though an army besiege me,
my heart will not fear;
though war break out against me,
even then will I be confident.
- 4** One thing I ask of the LORD,
this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.
- 5** For in the day of trouble
he will keep me safe in his dwelling;
he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle
and set me high upon a rock.
- 6** Then my head will be exalted
above the enemies who surround me;
at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 7** Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;
be merciful to me and answer me.
- 8** My heart says of you, "Seek his ^[b] face!"
Your face, LORD, I will seek.
- 9** Do not hide your face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger;
you have been my helper.
Do not reject me or forsake me,
O God my Savior.
- 10** Though my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will receive me.
- 11** Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me in a straight path
because of my oppressors.
- 12** Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes,
for false witnesses rise up against me,
breathing out violence.
- 13** I am still confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
- 14** Wait for the LORD;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the LORD.



Prayers for All Occasions:

For the Hospitalized

O God, Creator of us all, to whom alone is known the mystery of suffering, hear our prayers on behalf of those in hospitals who are bearing the burden of illness or pain or have to undergo an operation; in their weakness and anxiety draw near to them with your comfort and strength, and give them the assurance that, sharing their suffering, you will also share with them your peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Cancer Sufferers

O God, mighty giver of life, you are able to sustain what you have created: we ask you to heal the ills of those who suffer from the threat of cancer. We ask you to restore the physical body and also to cleanse the minds of the ill of worry, fear, and despair, that both health of body and joy of soul may unite to undergird and uplift those who suffer, and so place them within the range of your healing power; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Those Restored to Health

We join today in thanking you, God, for all who have been restored again to better health; for faith and patience granted to us; for healing in body, mind, and spirit; for the skill and friendship and generosity of others; for the possibility of prayer and the comfort of the Bible; for sins forgiven and pardon assured; and through it all, for your unfailing presence we give you thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Mothers-to-Be



Lord Jesus, whose holy mother was told by the message of an angel that the fruit of her womb would be blessed, we pray for all mothers who are awaiting the birth of a child. Keep them in your peace, guard them from harm, and grant them the fulfillment of their joy, for your name's sake. Amen.

That Prayer be Answered

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time to make our prayers to you with one accord and you have promised that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant their request. Fulfill now the desires of your servants, if it is fitting; and give us knowledge of your truth in this world and eternal life in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Brokenhearted

O God, whose love restores the brokenhearted of this world: Pour out your love, we beseech you, upon those who feel lonely, abandoned, or unloved. Strengthen their hope to meet the days ahead. Give them the courage to form new life-giving relationships, and bless them with the joy of your eternal presence. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Times of Conflict

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



After a Disaster

Lord of compassion and power, be with those who have survived this disaster; minister to their needs of mind and spirit, body and circumstance; help those who are hurt; give peace to the dying; comfort and support the bereaved; and to all who are working to bring relief and restore order, give strength and resilience to do their work well; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Victims of a Tragedy

God of compassion, you watch your ways and weave out of terrible happenings wonders of goodness and grace. Surround those who have been shaken by tragedy with a sense of your present love, and hold them in faith. Though they are lost in grief, may they find you and be comforted; through Jesus Christ, who was dead, but lives, and rules this world with you. Amen.

To See Christ in Every Face

Loving Father, as you made your love known in a single human life, lived for others and laid down, help us to meet Christ and greet him in every human face, to worship and serve him in every human need, until with him and every man and woman born into the world we share with you the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

To Be Crafted by Christ

O Christ, the Master Carpenter, who, at the last, through wood and nails purchased our whole salvation: Wield well your tools in the workshop of your world, so that we, who come rough-hewn to your bench, may here be fashioned to a truer beauty of your hand. We ask it for your name's sake. Amen.

For Those Who Serve the Community



We thank you, creative God, for those who work sustains our nation and this community in which we live; for all who create the wealth by which we trade, for those who grow and provide our food, or who in industry, commerce, and transport bring it to our homes.

We thank you for those who, day and night, maintain the public services; for the police, for those who respond to emergencies, and for all whose work is in health or healing or social care.

Teach us to remember that all our lives depend upon the work of many minds and hands; and we pray that we may live thankfully and in unity as members of one human family; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

For Those in the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those we Love

Ever-loving God, we bring to you in our prayers all whom we love, knowing that your love for them is so much greater than ours, and that your will for them is all that is for their good. So, guard them in your keeping, O Lord, and give them now and always your richest blessing; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.



For Reconciliation

God, who formed all humankind as a family to live in harmony and peace; we acknowledge before you our divisions, quarrels, hatreds, injustices, and greed. Let your church demonstrate before the world the power of the gospel to destroy divisions, so that in Christ Jesus there may be no barriers of wealth or class, age or intellect, race or color, but all may equally be your children, members of one another and heirs together of your everlasting kingdom. To your name be glory forever and ever. Amen.

For Travelers

We pray for those soaring into the skies, sailing across the seas, and driving on the roads. Give strength and wisdom to all who use the machines of travel, and those who have responsibility for other people's lives. Save us all from selfishness and from taking undue risks; give us patience and the ability to move in this world in peace. We ask this for our health's sake, and for the glory of the Lord of life, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Witnessing by one's Life

Dear Jesus, help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go. Flood our souls with your spirit and life. Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly that our lives may only be a radiance of yours. Let us thus praise you in the way you love best by shining on those around us. Let us preach you without preaching, not by words, but by our example, by catching the force, the sympathetic influence of what we do, the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you. Amen.



For the Cross

*The cross is the hope of Christians
The cross is the resurrection of the dead
The cross is the way of the lost
The cross is the savior of the lost
The cross is the staff of the lame
The cross is the guide of the blind
The cross is the strength of the weak
The cross is the doctor of the sick
The cross is the aim of the priests
The cross is the hope of the hopeless
The cross is the freedom of the slaves
The cross is the power of the kings
The cross is the water of the seeds
The cross is the consolation of the bondsmen
The cross is the source of those who seek water
The cross is the cloth of the naked
We thank you, Father, for the cross. Amen.*

At the Close of the Day

*O Lord our God, thank you for bringing this day to a close;
Thank you for giving us rest in body and soul. Your hand has been
over us and has guarded and preserved us. Forgive our lack of faith
and any wrong that we have done today, and help us to forgive all
who have wronged us. Let us sleep in peace under your protection,
and keep us from all the temptations of darkness. Into your hands we
commend our loved ones and all who dwell in this place; we
commend to you all that we are – body and soul. O God, your holy
name be praised. Amen.*

The A.C.T.S. Model of Prayer



The Bible identifies several different types of prayers we can pray. One model for how we should pray is captured in the acrostic **A.C.T.S.** Each letter stands for a specific aspect of prayer, arranged in a very natural order.

- A:** Adoration (Worship)
- C:** Confession (of Specific Sins)
- T:** Thanksgiving (Gratitude)
- S:** Supplication (Specific Requests)

Adoration:

Jesus essentially taught us the same thing in the Lord's Prayer, which begins, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name" (Matthew 6:9). This puts things in perspective for us. A good example of this type of adoration is found in Psalm 95:1-7. When we take time to praise and worship God in our prayers, we are placing God where He rightfully belongs. As a result, our problems and needs come into their proper perspective.

Confession:

The closer we draw to God, the more we sense our own sinfulness. When Isaiah came into God's presence, he said, "Woe is me, for I am undone!" (Isaiah 6:5). The confession of our sin removes any barriers and clears the air of anything that would cause God not to hear our prayers. As 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us . . ." This is, once again, modeled in the Lord's Prayer. After "Our Father who art in heaven," we find, "Forgive us our sins" (Matthew 6:12).

Thanksgiving:

Our immediate response after confession is thanksgiving. We should be thankful that God would indeed cleanse and forgive us. Should we give thanks because everything is going perfectly in our lives or because we are in a good mood? No, we should give thanks because God deserves our praise. Psalm 118:1 says, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For his mercy endures forever.” As another translation puts it, “His love endures forever.” By giving thanks, or simply expressing gratitude for what we have, we prevent our focus from shifting to what we do not have.

Supplication:

If we are faithful in the first three steps, the last step will not degenerate into some spiritual shopping list. Too often in prayer, we cut to the chase instead of spending time in adoration, confession, and thanksgiving first. Yet, God does want to hear our needs and requests. Scripture tells us, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, and let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6-7). We are also promised, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19).

A: Adoration

C: Confession

T: Thanksgiving

S: Supplication





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