

Bread of Life
Celebrating salvation
Being transformed

Prelude

Announcements

We gather +in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us gather together, hungry and thirsty. Come, all who long to be filled with good things.

Let us open our hands to receive from God's son, our brother and friend.

Let us quiet our minds and awaken our hearts to be transformed by God's Spirit, who redeems us.

Opening Hymn *Come, Come, Everybody Worship* TFWS #2271 vs. 2-4

**2. Worship and remember
the Lord's unending care,
reaching out
to love and help
people everywhere!**

Refrain
**Come! Come!
Everybody worship
with a prayer or
song of praise!
Come! Come!
Everybody worship!
Worship God always!**

**3. Worship and remember
your blessings
great and small.
Give to God
an offering;
show your thanks for all! [*Refrain*]**

**4. Worship and remember
how Jesus long ago
taught us how
to talk to God;
something we should know! [*Refrain*]**

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Let us pray,
God our daily provider, teach us to trust in your abundance. As we gather in worship open our hearts to your voice and our hands to your provision. Nourish us with your truth and prepare us to share your love in the world. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Luke 19: 1-10 (The Voice translation)

¹ Jesus enters Jericho and seems only to be passing through. ² Living in Jericho is a man named Zaccheus. He's the head tax collector and is very rich. ³ He is also very short. He wants to see Jesus as He passes through the center of town, but he can't get a glimpse because the crowd blocks his view. ⁴ So he runs ahead of the crowd and climbs up into a sycamore tree so he can see Jesus when He passes beneath him.

⁵ Jesus comes along and looks up into the tree[, and there He sees Zaccheus].

Jesus: Zaccheus, hurry down from that tree because I need to stay at your house *tonight*.

⁶ Zaccheus scrambles down and joyfully brings Jesus back to his house. ⁷ Now the crowd sees this, and they're upset.

Crowd (*grumbling*): Jesus has become the houseguest of this fellow who is a notorious sinner.

Zaccheus: ⁸ Lord, I am giving half of my goods to the poor, and whomever I have cheated I will pay back four times what I took.

Jesus: ⁹ Today liberation has come to this house, since even Zaccheus is living as a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to liberate the lost.

Based on Luke 22: 7-20

When people celebrate holidays, they often eat special meals together. What kinds of food do people eat at Christmas? At Easter? On your birthday? Jesus and the disciples ate a meal to celebrate the Passover when they were in Jerusalem.

When Jesus and the disciples went into Jerusalem on the day we call Palm Sunday, it was time for the Passover festival. Jewish people

traveled from all over to Jerusalem. They came to remember how God sent Moses to lead them out of slavery into the promised land. An important part of this celebration was the Passover meal.

Jesus sent his friends Peter and John into the city. He said, "Find a place where we can eat the Passover meal together."

"Where do you want us to prepare the meal? We don't live here," they asked.

"You will meet a man carrying a jar of water," answered Jesus. "He will show you an upstairs guestroom in his house."

Peter and John went to Jerusalem. They saw the man with the water jar. He showed them his upstairs guestroom where the meal could be prepared, just like Jesus had said.

Later, Jesus and all the disciples came to the upstairs room. When the meal was ready, they gathered around the table to eat the Passover meal of lamb, vegetables, and herbs. Jesus looked around the table and said, "I am glad to eat this Passover meal with you. It might be a long time until we eat together again."

Jesus picked up a cup, He said, "Thank you, God, for this food."

Then Jesus picked up a loaf of bread and tore it into pieces. He gave the bread to his disciples. "This bread is like my body," he said. "Remember me when you eat bread with your friends and family."

When everyone had eaten, Jesus lifted the cup again. He said, "This cup is like the blood that makes each human live. Remember me when you drink from this cup."

This was a new way to celebrate the Passover. The disciples were confused about some things that Jesus said. But tonight, they were happy to be together.

Reflection

Celebrating

Bread of Life

Verses



1. If you're hun-gry, come, tired_ and un - done, there's a
2. Bring your wear - y mind, ev - ery tear you've cried, there is



place for you, a place for you at the ta - ble._
peace for you, _____ peace for you at the ta - ble._



If you're lone - ly, come, fill your emp - ty cup, there's a
Lay your bur - dens down, hope is all a - round, you are



drink for you, a drink for you at the ta - ble.____
wel - come here,____ wel - come here at the ta - ble.____

Refrain



Bread of life, Je - sus with us,____ heal - ing our hearts with love.



Bread of life, bro - ken for you,____ share with a - noth - er too.



There is e - nough. Oh there will al - ways be, so



take this bread with me.____ *to bridge after the second refrain*

Bridge

Final Refrain →



So take this bread with me.____



Free - ly____ giv - en to us____ so we might give____ free - ly to oth - ers.



Free - ly____ giv - en to us____ so let us give____ free - ly to oth - ers.



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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Because we often fall short and are not willing to love as Jesus loves, let us confess our sins and ask for forgiveness.

Holy God, even though we choose to follow Jesus we often go our own way. Jesus sends us out to care for others, but we put ourselves first at the expense of others. Forgive us for neglecting our neighbors and our community; for the good left undone and the wrong done. Help us to be faithful disciples.

In Christ, we are forgiven, justified, and transformed to carry on in the way of love and justice. Savor the good news of this pardon – your sins are forgiven +in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Beneath the cross of Jesus, we lift up our joys and our sorrows to God.

O Lord, amid the shifting sands of this world,
be our rock and our foundation.

As we gaze upon the cross of Christ,
be our hope and our salvation.

Offering

Kum Bah Yah

UMH #494 vs. 1-4

- 1. Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah.
O Lord, kum ba yah!**

**2. Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah.
O Lord, kum ba yah!**

**3. Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah.
O Lord, kum ba yah!**

**4. Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
Someone needs you, Lord, kum ba yah.
O Lord, kum ba yah!**

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Gracious God, we offer these gifts as a sign of our gratitude for the bread of life that sustains us. May these offerings be used to feed the hungry, welcome our neighbors, and spread your love and justice everywhere we go. Bless both the giver and the gift that they may bear fruit for your kingdom. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray. Pray in the language and translation of your heart.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to the table.

The table is set for you. If you are hungry, tired, weary, or worn, or joyful or full, or care free, there is space for you here. Come, the bread of life and the cup of blessing await you. The body and blood of Christ given for you. Amen.

Holy Communion

We will receive in an older Congregational style. Bread will be passed among the congregation. Each takes a piece of bread and waits until all have received to consume the bread. In the same manner the cups will be passed through the congregation. Each takes a cup and waits until all have received to drink. (A basket will then be passed for the empty cups.)

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks for feeding us at your table, Lord. You are our sustenance, our hope and our joy. May we become what we have received, the body of Christ, for the sake of the world. Amen.

Closing Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

UMH #292

**1. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.**

**2. What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of life
to lay aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.**

**3. To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb
who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme
I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme I will sing.**

**4. And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

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Benediction

As you go, +may the love of God enfold you, the peace of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain you, now and forever.

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