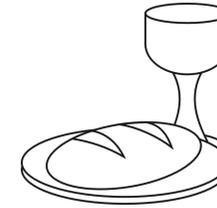


Use us – all that we have and all that we are  
to touch the world with the Christmas message:  
*God is love. God is with us. God will never leave us.*

*So, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
The Love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all now and forever. Amen.*



## A Liturgy for Advent and Christmas

### *We Gather for Worship*

*The people who walk in darkness will see a great light – a light that will shine on all who live in the land where death casts its shadow...For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. And the government will rest on his shoulders. These will be his royal titles: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2 & 6)*

God of Surprising Generosity and Unexpected Grace,  
We have come to witness a miracle;  
to prepare our hearts for a new invasion of Your Light;  
*We have come once again  
to open our souls and our lives  
to the divine birth.*

And in this sacred moment we ask for Your gentle Presence  
to captivate and challenge us.  
*For Jesus' sake. Amen.*

### *We Express Our Praise and Confession*

We celebrate You and praise You,  
God of new beginnings and surprising opportunities  
*Because You never cease to make Yourself available to us.*  
We appreciate You and thank You,  
God of unquenchable life and irrepressible grace  
*Because You continue to offer us the resources of Your Spirit.*

---

Written by John van de Laar

© 2008 Sacredise

*This liturgy may be copied for congregational use, but may not be used in any for-sale publication or for gain in any way without the written permission of the publisher*

We love You and embrace You,  
God of unfailing compassion and constant companionship  
**Because You walk beside us and transform us into agents of love.**

Forgive us, O Lord,  
*When we seek to keep You to ourselves  
and shut others from Your influence*  
Forgive us, O Christ,  
*When we wallow in our own weakness  
and take advantage of the weakness of others.*  
Forgive us, O Spirit,  
*When we deny Your friendship  
and withhold Your compassion from others.*

*Silent Confession*

**Heal us, restore and empower us, O God, we pray  
For the sake of Your kingdom which has broken into our world.  
Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer may be said*

**We Come to the Lord's Table**

We thank and praise You, O God  
for You are not distant and uninvolved  
in our lives and our world  
But, You have come to us, humbly and gently,  
challengingly and irresistibly.  
**And whoever receives You, whoever believes in You  
becomes a child of God, born of the Spirit.**

*Silent Reflection*

So, we remember Jesus' birth and life,  
His suffering and victory.  
On the night before His crucifixion,  
Jesus shared His last meal with His friends;  
He took the loaf of bread and blessed it,  
then breaking it, He offered it to them saying:  
**This is my body broken for you. Eat this in memory of me.**  
After the meal, He took the cup of wine and blessed it,

then He offered it to them saying:  
**This is my blood shed for you. Drink this in memory of me.**  
So, we eat and we drink and we remember.  
**With hope and joy in the new life  
which comes in God's kingdom. Amen.**

God of Grace,  
Come to us again in this meal,  
and as we share this bread and wine,  
may we share in Christ's body and blood;  
May we offer ourselves to you again,  
and may we become one with Christ  
and with each other – a single, unified body.  
**Amen.**

*Communion is received*

**We Give Thanks**

We thank You, Lord God,  
**For breaking into our world, our lives and our experience.**  
We thank You, O Christ,  
**For this meal of remembering,  
and the stories of love and grace that it tells.**  
We thank You, O Spirit,  
**For Your Presence and Your challenge  
for us to become agents of God's compassion.**  
In Jesus' Name. Amen

**We Offer our Gifts and Ourselves to God**

In this moment of worship  
we embrace Your presence again, O God.  
**And we offer You our love.**  
In this moment of prayer  
we proclaim again Your purpose for the world, O Saviour.  
**And we offer You our resources.**  
In this moment of giving  
we hear Your call again, O Lord.  
**And we offer You ourselves.**